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REAL MEASURES IN DISARMAMENT 'FEASIBLE, POSSIBLE'

LD162204 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Here is a cable from New York: The UN headquarters has circulated the full text of the letter sent by USSR Foreign Minister Gromyko to UN Secretary General Waldheim, regarding the tasks of the second decade of disarmament. Now a news bulletin international topic commentary by Viktor Levin:

The questions of halting the arms race and of disarmament occupy one of the central positions in world politics. They are even referred to not infrequently as the main problem of the contemporary age. The cause of peace on earth does indeed depend on the way in which this problem is solved.

One cannot say that in the first decade of disarmament, as the United Nations has dubbed the seventies, mankind has proved capable of resolving this problem. It is sufficient to take a look at the military budgets of the NATO countries and to recall their intention of increasing allocations for military preparations by an annual 3 percent to see that the arms race, through the fault of Western powers, continues.

But at the same time the seventies were marked by the drawing up of international agreements on the prohibition of the deployment of weapons of mass annihilation on the seabed and the ocean floor, the ban on bacteriological arms, the ban on the military use of means of influencing the environment and so on. Every agreement reached is important in itself. But in addition to this, the results of the talks on problems of disarmament during the seventies testify that real measures in this field are possible and feasible.

This idea is consistently put in the letter sent by the Soviet minister, although it does not conceal the fact that at the turn of the eighties the United States and the other Western powers have openly embarked on the road of cranking up the arms race and whipping up tension. The decision of the December session of the NATO Council on the production and deployment on West European territory of new types of American medium-range strategic missiles was a concentrated reflection of this policy. The policy of the Western powers creates an additional and, one must say frankly, a very substantial obstacle on the road to disarmament.

However, the Soviet Union, as Comrade Gromyko's letter convincingly shows, is far from thinking of lapsing into pessimism. The principled position of the USSR remains unchanged. The Soviet Union is prepared to restrict and to prohibit, on a mutual basis and subject to agreement with other states, any type of weapon without, of course, it being to the detriment of anyone's security and on conditions of complete reciprocity on the part of states which possess the relevant armaments. All the Soviet Union's proposals submitted earlier, first and foremost the Soviet peace initiative expounded by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in Berlin last October, remain in force. Our country is filled with resolve to promote the infusion of real content into the second decade of disarmament. This reflects the consistent Leninist foreign policy course of the USSR, a course which accords with the fundamental interests of the peoples.

Criticism of UN Letter Hit

LD162142 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 16, TASS--TASS political news analyst Igor Orlov writes:

Alois Mertes, a representative of the CDU/CSU faction on questions of disarmament is not conspicuous by originality of his public appearances on these vital issues. In his attacks on concrete proposals in the sphere of disarmament he reiterates, as a rule, the old tunes of the opponents of curbing the arms race. But Mertes sometimes shows amazing efficiency. This happened a few days ago. Before the USSR permanent representatives at the United Nations had time to hand over to the U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim a thorough letter of the USSR foreign minister on objectives of the second decade of disarmament, as Mertes hastily declared that the proposals, expounded in the letter were... "a propaganda maneuver".

In his haste, Mertes forgot to note what exactly is the cause of his greatest dissatisfaction in the Soviet letter. May be, it is the Soviet Union's confidence that the 1980s should become the years of a substantial advance in the struggle for ensuring durable peace? Or the thought that in the present complicated international situation it is extremely important not to relax, but, on the contrary, invigorate the efforts of all peaceable states aimed at strengthening peace, eliminating the threat of war, attaining concrete measures in the sphere of containing the arms race and in disarmament?

The Soviet Union reaffirms once again its readiness to limit, to ban on a mutual basis by agreement with other states any (we repeat--any) type of weapons, without damaging the security of anyone, on the basis of full reciprocity of the states which have relevant armaments.

Mertes seemingly doesn't like such a statement of the question, and this is clear. He advocates a further build-up of military budgets of Western countries and the deployment in Western Europe of the new American nuclear missiles in the obvious desire to change the obtaining correlation of forces on the continent in NATO's favor, which can be followed by very dangerous consequences.

It is difficult to say which of the concrete proposals of the USSR and other socialist countries is particularly disliked by Mertes and those whom he represents. Are these the proposals on conclusion of a convention on the strengthening of guarantees of security of non-nuclear states, on establishing nuclear-free zones in different regions of the world, reduction of military budgets or on conclusion of a convention on prohibition of chemical weapons. It would be probably correct to conclude that all these and many other proposals contained in the Soviet letter are not at all to the liking of the circles which speak through Mertes.

But, may be, we are forcing an open door? Mertes was so quick in his reaction to the document, which is not yet discussed at the United Nations, that such a possibility might well be: He simply could not or he did not want to know the text of that important document. Whatever it is, Mertes' reaction reveals him as a man who rather cares for building up the arms race, but not for curbing it.

'SCHEME TO CREATE IMPRESSION OF CBW ACTIVITY' SCORED

LD170851 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Apr 80 p 9

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Additional Detail": "Why Rumors Are Being Spread"]

[Text] An article entitled "How Rumors Are Spreading About an Accident Linked With the Threat of Bacteriological Warfare" has been published in a recent edition of the London weekly THE OBSERVER. In connection with the anti-Soviet falsification by Springer's BILD (see LITERATURNAYA GAZETA No 13 1980) the author writes in particular: Washington officials have admitted that they have no evidence of a leak of micro-organisms from a factory in the Urals. Nevertheless the U.S. Government Foreign Broadcast Information Service [Pravitelstvennaya Sluzhba Inostrannogo Radioveshchaniya SSHA] circulated an extract from the BILD report.

The circumstances in which this was done are significant. First, it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Carter administration to maintain the sense of crisis in connection with events in Afghanistan. Secondly, the military lobby in Washington is trying to win supporters for the new American program for the production of chemical weapons by publishing unconfirmed reports that the Russians have used poisonous substances in Afghanistan.

"The timing of the publication of these reports is by no means accidental," a top U.S. intelligence service official confirmed. "The dissemination of such reports is part of an overall scheme: To create an impression of Soviet activity in the sphere of chemical and bacteriological weapons."

U.S. REFUSES TO DISCUSS NONUSE OF FORCE PRINCIPLE

LD161513 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Apr 80 p 3

[V. Zimm article under the rubric "Our Commentary": "Washington's Dangerous Stance"]

[Text] Recently the U.S. Permanent Mission to the United Nations officially informed the UN secretary general of the U.S. refusal to participate in the work of the special committee to strengthen the effectiveness of the principle of the nonuse of force in international relations. As is known, the initiator of the UN examination of the non-use of force issue was the Soviet Union, which submitted a proposal at the 31st UN session in 1976 on the conclusion of a world treaty on the nonuse of force. The conclusion of this treaty, which sets the goal of insuring the effectiveness of a fundamental principle of international law and turning that principle into an international law, would be of extremely great significance for strengthening peace and international security. The vast majority of UN members realized this. The Soviet proposal received wide support. And at the following, 32d UN session a decision was taken to create a special committee to prepare a draft treaty. Among the decision's few opponents were the United States, Britain and China.

From the very start of the special committee's work the U.S. delegation to the United Nations demonstrated its clearly negative attitude toward enshrining the principle of the nonuse of force in international law. The refusal to take part in the special committee's work is only the logical conclusion of this course and a frank admission that the United States intends to continue to use force as the main instrument of its foreign policy. This is indicated by the activation of U.S. war preparations, the feverish search for new military bases, the buildup of forces near other states' shores or borders and the direct threats against Iran. This unpromising and dangerous stance will not produce the expected advantages for the United States. It only shows the whole world yet again the unprincipled, adventurist nature of that country's foreign policy.

TROYANOVSKIY CONDEMNS ISRAELI ACTS IN OCCUPIED LANDS

LD160915 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 80 p 5

[Correspondent A. Tolkunov dispatch: "For a Just Settlement"]

[Excerpt] New York, 9 April--The UN Security Council has resumed its consideration of the question of Israel's continuing violations of the Palestinian people's rights. The council was convened at the request of the UN committee for implementation of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights.

Many delegates noted in their speeches that Israel is continuing to disregard the UN decisions aimed at implementing the Palestinian people's inalienable rights. Tel Aviv's continuing illegal creation of paramilitary settlements on the seized Arab lands was resolutely condemned. In defiance of the Security Council resolution of 1 March this year the Israeli authorities have taken new actions aimed at colonizing and annexing Arab lands, including in East Jerusalem.

For many years we have witnessed the way Israel acts in defiance of the spirit and the letter of the UN Charter, systematically and deliberately sabotages fulfillment of Security Council and General Assembly resolutions and crudely flouts the universally recognized norms of international law, USSR Representative O.A. Troyanovskiy stated. The facts show conclusively that the conclusion of the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the start of the talks on so-called "administrative autonomy" have sharply intensified Israel's unlawful actions on the occupied Arab territories. The number of Israeli settlements created there has increased. Repressions and oppression of and racial discrimination against the Arab population have become tougher. Historic Arab religious and cultural values are being defiled on those territories increasingly often.

The Soviet Union, O.A. Troyanovskiy noted, firmly proceeds from the premise that the only road to a really just and lasting peace in the Near East is via a cardinal and all-embracing settlement, whose essential elements are the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories they occupied in 1967, the satisfaction of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, including their rights to self-determination and to create their own independent state, and the safeguarding of the right of all the region's states to independent existence and security. That is the Soviet Union's principled and invariable stance. It is based on its international solidarity with the peoples struggling for their national liberation.

ENVOY ISSUES STATEMENT AT UN AFRICA COMMISSION

LD160843 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 4

[Correspondent Yu. Shtykanov report from "The World Today" feature compiled by A. Nikanorov: "Economic Commission for Africa: Firm Bulwark"]

[Text] The 15th session of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the 6th conference of ECA ministers are continuing their work in Addis Ababa, our correspondent Yu. Shtykanov reports.

A statement by Soviet observer B.Ye. Kirnasovskiy, USSR ambassador to socialist Ethiopia, has been distributed at the session. It contains a survey of the economic situation in the African countries and of the Soviet Union's cooperation with the continent's developing countries. [paragraph continues]

In accordance with the agreements concluded the Soviet Union is rendering aid in building 460 industrial and other projects. In the period 1960 through 1979 the volume of Soviet-African trade has increased more than fivefold. In the future, the statement stresses, the Soviet Union is also prepared to cooperate with the African countries in the interests of the struggle for peace, national and economic independence and social progress.

AAPSO OFFERS TO MEDIATE BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN

LD161451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 80 p 4

[TASS report: "AAPSO Initiative"]

[Text] Nicosia, 8 April--A session of the AAPSO Permanent Secretariat has taken place here to examine the situation in southwest Asia in connection with the threat to peace in the region and the continuing tension in relations between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] and Pakistan.

Coming out resolutely in favor of the normalization of relations between the DRA and Pakistan, AAPSO expresses complete solidarity with the Afghan leadership's policy aimed at establishing good-neighborly relations with the Pakistani people. In this connection the AAPSO Permanent Secretariat has declared its readiness to take appropriate steps to send a representative delegation to countries in the region with a view to contributing to the cause of establishing friendly relations between southwest Asian countries.

SHITIKOV ADDRESSES INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION SESSION

LD161457 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 80 p 4

[TASS report: "Topical Issues Discussed"]

[Text] Oslo, 9 April--The current session of the Interparliamentary Union is in progress here. About 400 parliamentarians from 75 of the world's countries and representatives of 20 international organizations are discussing topical problems of international life.

The attention of the commission on political issues, international security and disarmament is focused on the problems of strengthening the relaxation of international tension and curbing the arms race and of the possibility of strengthening the regime of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. The speech by Soviet delegation head A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, was devoted to those issues.

The Soviet Union's stance in the present situation is well known, the delegation head stressed. It has been defined with the utmost clarity by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium: "The earth's peoples now have a common task--overcoming the tension that is again darkening international relations. Detente is the result of diverse efforts and the common gain of peace-loving states. Reckless imperialist forces cannot be allowed to ruin its fruits." As for Soviet parliamentarians, he said in conclusion, they are prepared to make their contribution to strengthening the detente process and to progress along the path toward implementation of mankind's age-old dream--a world without weapons on war.

ARBATOV WARNS OF DANGER OF FOLLOWING EARLY 70'S COURSE IN 80'S

LD171114 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1015 GMT 17 Apr 80

["U.S. Foreign Policy on the Threshold of the 80's"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 17 April, TASS--"In U.S. foreign policy the yet unconquered heritage of hegemonism, the 'cold war' and anticommunism remains an important factor," Georgiy Arbatov, Soviet scientist and director of the United States of America and Canada Institute, writes in the magazine THE UNITED STATES: ECONOMY, POLITICS AND IDEOLOGY, in an article which analyzes U.S. foreign policy on the threshold of the 80's.

Academician Arbatov rejects the assertion that the Soviet Union threatens the national security of the United States. "The real threat to the national security, even to the national existence of the United States," he writes, "Does not proceed from the Soviet Union. It is in the continuing arms race, in the tension and in unresolved conflicts in the world which threaten to go out of control, to become the fuse of a thermonuclear catastrophe. These real sources of danger to U.S. security are not only not eliminated by the reversal in U.S. policy, they are seriously deepened."

"No one expects the Americans and their allies to approve of the April revolution in Afghanistan and the aid given to that country by the Soviet Union," the academician continues. "But as the dust begins to settle after the anti-Soviet campaign which has now been unleashed, there will arise an atmosphere favorable to sober thinking. In such an atmosphere it will be easier to see all the events in their true proportions, to evaluate them sensibly and decide whether it is worth destroying and breaking everything that is necessary and vitally essential--hopes for secure peace, the ending of the arms race, detente and mutually advantageous cooperation--simply because it is not to the liking of some. All the more so since despite the panic mongering allegations of U.S. propaganda no one will see Soviet tanks and soldiers on the shores of the Persian Gulf and other warm seas."

"One would think it would not take long to realize the monstrous stupidity of what Washington is now doing in Soviet-American relations. Here, it must be said, the U.S. Government is working with a will to break and destroy, with a sort of passion, that which has been created at the cost of prolonged and persistent labor. It is as if they had been dreaming of this for a long time, only waiting for 'permission to strike,'" says Georgiy Arbatov. "Great damage has been done to the arms limitation talks, in which the United States has no less interest than the Soviet Union; the agreement on direct air links is being breached; many measures in scientific cooperation have been halted; and an atmosphere is being whipped up which is a direct encouragement to anti-Soviet groups to commit criminal acts of hooliganism. All this not only damages Soviet interests but damages American interests just as much."

"But there is no further to go along this road. Washington should think seriously about this. In the final reckoning, a policy must have an aim. But a course is being proposed for the 80's which had already been tried and found bankrupt by the beginning of the 70's. There will surely be few, among the Americans and their allies or elsewhere, who would wish to travel this road again in still more dangerous conditions."

SMIRNOV: POSSIBLE SANCTIONS IN 1984 IN LIGHT OF BOYCOTT DECISION

LD162243 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2000 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] All honest athletes of the world, sports fans and progressive public circles of all countries condemn the U.S. administration, which has forced the U.S. National Olympic Committee to support President Carter's demand to boycott the Moscow Olympics.

In this connection we have interviewed Vitaliy Georgiyevich Smirnov, first deputy chairman of the Olympic-80 Organizing Committee and vice president of the IOC. [begin recording]

[Smirnov] We regard the decision of the U.S. National Olympic Committee as one of the most unprecedented in the history of the contemporary Olympic movement. The rules of the International Olympic Committee do not make it incumbent upon national Olympic committees to participate in any particular Olympic games, but these rules impose very severe penalties on those who take such decisions under pressure from or allegiance to any political, racial or religious influence. Therefore, the U.S. National Olympic Committee, having yielded to gross, unprecedented pressure on the part of the White House administration, which used literally all methods up to and including blackmail, intimidation of athletes and the threat that if any other decision was taken it would be regarded as a betrayal of the national interests of the country. The U.S. vice president went as far as to say that a contrary decision would represent a threat to the future of the whole civilized world.

Well, what will the consequences of the decision be? Undoubtedly it is the American athletes who will be the first to suffer. They have taken part in all the Olympics since 1896. They missed only three Olympics, together with the entire Olympic world. These were the Olympics which did not take place during the years of World Wars I and II. And now, for the first time, the American sportsmen isolate themselves from the world festival of youth. It is the athletes who suffer, and one can sincerely regret this. We have always respected American athletes, who were making a definite contribution to the development of sports and to the development and growth of Olympic accomplishments.

It would be wrong, however, to suppose that this will do any harm to the Moscow Olympics. We must first and foremost state that the games will take place. The festive opening of the Olympic games will take place 19 July, in Moscow, in the Luzhniki, at the Lenin Central Stadium. At this time we have confirmation of intention to participate in the Olympics from 105 national Olympic committees. Only seven national Olympic committees have let us know in writing that they will not be able to participate in the Olympic games. This shows to some extent how the Olympic world is reacting to the attempts, the efforts, undertaken by the U.S. administration.

It is not only American athletes who will suffer. An iron curtain has been practically lowered around the United States by the U.S. President since NBC television has been forbidden to report the Olympics. It must be said that the American NBC television corporation has the right to relay the Olympics only on U.S. territory. All other countries will have their own channels and corresponding contracts with other television companies. The Americans have paid tens of millions of dollars for the necessary equipment. They have trained their personnel. They have done a lot of work. And all this will not be compensated, so to speak. All this is money wasted. Some other corporations will also suffer. Like Coca-Cola for instance, which planned on being a supplier. But it would be naive to think that we cannot have the Olympic games without Coca Cola.

[Question] Those American supporters who intended to occupy seats in the stands of the Moscow Olympics will also suffer, it seems.

[Answer] Undoubtedly! After all they bought in advance [word indistinct] tickets for the Moscow Olympics. One can sympathise with them. They have paid money, and that money has been wasted for them, so to speak.

[Question] What is your opinion, as a vice president of the IOC and as a figure of the international sports movement? Has the United States now the moral right to stage the 1984 Olympics in that country?

[Answer] There may be sanctions on the part of the Internation Olympic Committee here regarding Los Angeles in 1984.

[Question] A meeting of the IOC executive is to be held in Lausanne on 21 April. This question will surely also be discussed there?

[Answer] Undoubtedly. The decision of the U.S. Olympic Committee will be discussed at the meeting of the executive of the International Olympic Committee. I think that representatives of the U.S. National Olympic Committee will be invited, and they will give the necessary explanations in this respect.

[Question] What will you wish Soviet sports fans now that only 3 months remain until the Olympics?

[Answer] I would like, on behalf of our organizing committee, to reassure the Soviet sports fans that very extensive work is now underway to justify their hopes. We are certain that these Olympics will add a new bright page to the history of the international Olympic movement. [end recording]

VASILYEV VIEWS EFFECTS OF BOYCOTT, TRADE SANCTIONS

LD161527 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Apr 80 p 3

[B. Vasilyev article: "The Bommerang Comes Back; How the White House Has Hit the U.S. Economy"]

[Text] The foreign press is continuing to discuss with alarm the consequences which could ensue from the Carter administration's current shortsighted policy of wrecking the relaxation of international tension, including curtailing business relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

As the measures announced by Washington at the beginning of January to sharply limit American exports to the USSR are being implemented with a view to harming our country's economy, an increasing number of representatives of U.S. business and political circles are evaluating these measures as harmful above all to the United States. Why? Simply because the restrictions being imposed have already deprived or may soon deprive American firms of large Soviet orders. Given the present low business activity and high unemployment and inflation in the United States this is becoming an additional factor in the general deterioration of the economic situation in the country.

When he was a presidential candidate in 1976 J. Carter promised voters that he would promote the expansion of American exports in every possible way with a view to enlivening business activity and reducing unemployment. [paragraph continues]

According to an estimate made at the time by the U.S. State Department, $1 billion of exports provide almost 50,000 Americans with employment. But President Carter's recent leap toward cold war disposes American economists toward calculations of a different sort. They have noted, in particular, that the threat of losing orders for exports to the USSR worth almost $1 billion hangs over the Western Electric Company. The Occidental Petroleum Company's losses could reach $900 million, ARMCO's $350 million and General Electric's $40 million.

Carter's decision to boycott the Olympic games in Moscow, foreign economists believe, will result in a loss of hundreds of millions of dollars for various U.S. firms. In particular, the firm of Image Factory Sports will lose approximately $100 million which it hoped to earn from worldwide sales of the emblem of the Moscow Olympic games. One of the major U.S. television companies, which had reckoned on making almost $90 million out of relaying the games to the United States, will also lose that opportunity. Carter's embargo on grain exports to the Soviet Union, according to the latest estimates of American economists, will cost the United States more than $5 billion.

The total value of just the aforesaid Soviet industrial and agricultural orders threatened as a result of the embargo announced by Carter exceeds $7 billion. Consequently, their loss could bring about a drop in employment in the United States and an increase of at least 300,000 in the American army of unemployed.

A number of U.S. press organs, particularly the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, are also drawing attention to the fact that "a reduction in American-Soviet trade will cost American taxpayers dear." The point is that the White House, having promised to buy from farmers for that sum the grain not supplied to the USSR, can fulfill its promise only with state budget funds. As a result, the magazine U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT believes, this year the country's already huge budget deficit will approach $40 billion.

Neither sober-minded representatives of U.S. business and political circles nor the majority of representatives of the West European and Japanese business world wish to pay such a high price for the White House's impulsive actions. The British journal THE ECONOMIST writes that West European governments "had cold shivers run up their spine out of fear that the foreign trade confrontation could also extend to them." For in 1978 alone, THE ECONOMIST writes, West European countries' exports to the USSR and socialist states topped $30 billion. According to the journal, these exports provide West Europe with "a huge number of jobs"--more accurately, more than 2 million. The loss of East European orders threatens to increase unemployment in West Europe by almost 30 percent. In addition, West European countries will lose the possibility of paying for commodities of vital importance to them which they import from East Europe--such as oil, coal, natural gas and certain types of industrial raw materials and agricultural and industrial products.

"Political ties between West Europe and Moscow are backed up by considerable economic ties," America's NEWSWEEK magazine admits. "West Germany, is Russia's biggest partner, and French construction and machine-building firms, which have already suffered as the result of a slump inside the country...could suffer still greater losses if contracts with Russia are canceled."

Japan, which during the seventies--the years of relaxation of international tension--acquired the possibility of increasing several times over exports of its products to the Soviet Union, is also calculating its possible losses due to Washington's unpredictable actions in the sphere of international economic relations. "The majority of representatives of the Japanese business world," TOKYO SHIMBUN writes, "are resolutely opposed to following in the U.S. wake on questions of economic relations with the Soviet Union."

As though summing up all the discussion on this subject, (S. Chilikyan), leader of the American Satra Corporation, declared in a statement to journalists: "The volume of our deals with Soviet foreign trade organizations stands at $70-100 million a year. And we are thinking of increasing it. Sanctions against the Soviet Union are a boomerang.... Why throw a boomerang if you know that it comes back?"

Nonetheless, the Carter administration is continuing to persist in its shift toward cold war. Here it is being led along by the U.S. military-industrial complex--the most reactionary wing of big capital seeking to resolve the crisis problems of capitalism and to make new superprofits on the paths of a further arms race.

The irresponsible statements and steps of the present White House administration, urged on by election campaign fever, are already boomeranging against the American economy. They threaten still greater harm, including harm to the economies of other Western states which derive real palpable benefits from the development of mutually advantageous business relations with the socialist world on a long-term basis.

STURUA DERIDES CAPITOL HILL PATRONS OF FREE 'ISLAMIC REPUBLIC'

LD161043 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Dispatch from IZVESTIYA correspondent M. Sturua under the rubric "Feuilleton": "Goof"]

[Text] In conformity with the laws of dishonor, what was to be expected has happened: A "free Islamic republic" has been proclaimed. You won't find it on a map, not even with an electronic wand. The "free Islamic republic" is based in...Greenwich Village, New York's famous bohemian quarters!

This "republic's" "government in exile" consists of just one person. All the "ministerial portfolios" are held by one Zia Nasiri, a former resident of Kabul and former student at the Harvard Business School. Despite the utter absurdity of this bohemian "republic" it has managed to secure "recognition" from a number of U.S. newspapers noted neither for fastidiousness nor common sense.

Encouraged by the "recognition" of the gutter and even the serious press, the unerudite Zia's "government" decided to broaden its base. It managed to do so by a full 100 percent. The population of the "free Islamic republic" doubled. Now, in addition to Zia himself, it comprises (Khassan Durrani), nicknamed "the Afghan Anastasiya." This nickname requires a short explanation. At one time hordes of adventuresses turned up in the United States and Europe, trying to pass themselves off as the "miraculously-surviving" daughter of the last tsar of all the Russians and on this basis to gain access to the House of Romanov's stolen millions kept in the vaults of the Bank of England in London.

And so to all those willing to lend an attentive ear Nasiri introduced (Khassan Durrani) as the "crown prince" of the deposed Afghan royal family. The "republican" Nasiri was evidently not at all shocked by consorting with the "royalist" (Durrani). In any case, their duet was obviously well-rehearsed.

The "prince" and his "prime minister" gave press interviews to all and sundry, spoke on television and even addressed New York's Rotary Club, talking absolute nonsense about the situation in Afghanistan. Rumors about this duo even reached Washington. On Capitol Hill they were exultant. Senator Jesse Helms, a model superhawk and anticommunist, took a serious interest and submitted a plan for the creation of an Afghan "government in exile," which he wanted to see headed by (Durrani).

But just when dollars, albeit badly devalued, and participation in "serious matters" were looming on the horizon, Zia Nasiri took fright. Seeing that events were taking a serious turn and that his great swindle was being sucked into big-time politics, Zia preferred not to take a chance and go too far. Or perhaps he wanted to be both head of the "Islamic republic" and its "prime minister" at the same time. In any case, fearing that it would not work, Nasiri "confessed" voluntarily. He said that (Khassan Durrani) was not a "prince" at all, just a...hairdresser.

So the lofty patrons--with the stature of Capitol Hill--of the "free Islamic republic" headed by the hairdresser-prince goofed. Will this teach them any sense? It is unlikely. Gray hair, especially as styled by the "Afghan Anastasiya" is still no guarantee of wisdom.

BEGIN IN WASHINGTON: ISRAEL WILL NEVER ALTER POLICY

LD170852 Moscow TASS in English 0718 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Washington, April 17, TASS--Tel Aviv will never agree to alter its policy of establishment of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories. This was stated cynically by Prime Minister Menahem Begin of Israel at a press conference in Washington. He has held talks with U.S. President J. Carter on the resumption of Israeli-Egyptian talks on the Palestinian autonomy issue. Egyptian President as-Sadat earlier visited Washington with a similar mission.

The United States undertook this series of diplomatic initiatives to create a semblance of looking for ways of solving the Middle East problem and to achieve the granting of curtailed autonomy to the Palestinians on the Western Bank of the River Jordan and in the Gaza Strip, in accordance with the U.S. plan.

The U.S. news agencies report that As-Sadat did not dare to disobey its powerful overseas partner and having forgotten about the "differences" declared its readiness to resume the discussions with the Israeli side with the participation of the United States.

However, it is obvious already now that this will not lead to the granting of genuine freedom and independence to the Palestinians. Begin's statement in Washington is another proof of this.

CLAIMS OF USSR BUILDUP NEAR IRAN 'HYPOCRITICAL, DISGUSTING'

LD171022 Moscow TASS in English 1012 GMT 17 Apr 80

["State Department's Denial of Brzezinski's Investions"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, April 17, TASS--Hodding Carter, official spokesman of the U.S. State Department, said at a press conference that the United States has no evidence indicating that the Soviet Union is preparing "to attack" Iran. He said the State Department's analysis does not confirm the assertion that Russian activity is aimed at the Iranian frontier. Naturally, there is no such evidence and cannot be any. But it is indicative that at a time when a State Department's spokesman denies absurd assertions they continue coming from the White House. The President's Press Secretary Jody Powell, speaking almost simultaneously with the State Department spokesman, alleged that the Soviet Union is massing its armed forces on northern frontier of Iran. The main source of provocative fabrications concerning the "preparation of Soviet troops for a thrust into Iran", is Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Z. Brzezinski for whom political charlatanism is nothing new. No doubt, the White House invented such a blatant lie in order to "justify" somehow the United States preparations for military actions against Iran. The possibility of such actions is now mentioned even at official level in Washington. It is not for nothing that the biggest ever armada of American warships is concentrated near the Iranian shores while the Pentagon is discussing questions of a sea blockade of Iran, of mining its ports and striking blows at targets in Iranian territory. All allegations concerning a non-existent "Soviet menace" to Iran look against this background not only hypocritical but also disgusting.

Brzezinski 'Political Charlatan'

LD170923 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 80 p 5

[G. Vasilyev "Rejoinder" entitled "Poor Fingers"]

[Text] Bristling up with guns and rockets, U.S. ships patrol in the Persian Gulf. At U.S. military bases, 'green, 'black' and other berets are busy practicing sabotage operations. With reference to Washington sources, newspapers write about possible planting of mines at Iranian ports by the United States and about possible bombing strikes at the oil fields of that country. And finally the United States President himself in a hegemonist manner is threatening Tehran with "resolute actions" including, possibly, military ones.

Such are objective facts, the question now arises: Where does a threat to Iran come from? Don't hurry with an answer, though. According to the logic of the author of the "arc of instability", Zbigniew Brzezinski, a former professor who is now an important Washington official, what is obvious is not necessarily true. A threat to the Iranian people and to the Iranian revolution, in his view, emanates not from the USA but from--you guessed it! The Soviet Union.

Closing his eyes to the CIA's and the Pentagon's interventionist plans which are being worked out, it may be presumed, with his most active participation, the assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs told U.S. televiewers that according to "reliable information" the Soviet Union allegedly concentrated contingents of armed forces in the area of Transcaucasia, north of Iran.

Take note of the wording--'reliable information'. It is impressive and vague. Vague because it is unfounded. Neither U.S. spy satellites nor the listening stations located near our borders could detect a "concentration of Soviet troops". Where did information as to "concentration" come from? Mr Brzezinski simply concocted the frightening "information" by putting his professorial wits to work.

This is really a political charlatanism to which Brzezinski is so inclined, is it not?

They say that if a bear sucks its paw during hibernation the paw will seemingly remain smaller than the other. Should Mr Professor then not check his finger? [reference to expression "vysasyvat iz paltsa," literally to "suck out of one's finger," or to concoct]

Washington's 'Lies'

LD162217 Moscow TASS in English 2145 GMG 16 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 16, TASS--TASS commentator Nikolay Viktorov writes: Never before official Washington so frequently resorted to misinformation, juggling with facts and sometimes simply gross lies as in the days of the Iranian events. Representatives of the White House and the Department of State released various sensational "canards" with the only aim of diverting the attention, cost what it may, of the Iranian people, the world public from the U.S. imperialist policy of pressure and blackmail towards Iran.

Here is one of the most recent examples: Speaking on Tuesday to journalists, a spokesman of the Department of State largely dwelt on who threatens Iran.

It turns out that Iran is threatened not by the bristling up guns of the U.S. naval armada, not by hundreds of planes which in a few minutes can appear over Tehran and oil fields of the country from American aircraft-carriers, which are present not far from that long-suffering country, not by the Pentagon's plans to plant mines in Iranian ports. And the representative of the Department of State pretends that allegedly he does not know about Ayatollah Khomeyni's call to declare general mobilization in the country, to form an army of 20 million men to defend the homeland from the threat of invasion from American imperialism.

The official American representative need to pretend. He need to pretend in order to back up by his own fables the concoctions of the Assistant for the President for National Security Affairs Brzezinski who has long since become known as a typical political charlatan and who made the day before provocative concoctions about an alleged "concentration of contingents of Soviet troops in the area of the Transcaucasus, north of Iran"!

It is natural that this ill-intentioned nonsense was immediately turned down in Tehran by a competent person: "There is no testimony and traces testifying to preparation of Soviet troops for an attack on the territory of Iran", said Chief of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran General Hadi Shadmehr in an interview to Radio Tehran in connection with the provocative pronouncements of American officials.

The aims of the yet another anti-Soviet campaign of slander should be mentioned: It has been launched in time for the escalation of threats of the Carter administration against the Iranian people including the USA of American-armed force. And to camouflage these sinister intentions, the high-placed representatives of the U.S. administration create a smoke screen of lies and slander.

LOSEV: ALLIES ATTITUDE 'DECISIVE' IN SANCTION PLANS

ID161315 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 12 Apr 80 p 3

["International Review" by observer Sergey Losev: "The United States Beneath the 'Arc of Crisis'"]

[Text] Love of one's fellow man is by no means an integral part of U.S. foreign policy, despite the piety of the present White House incumbent. On the contrary, J. Carter's administration is characterized more by an insatiable passion for crises and confrontation which, as is known, has never led to a beneficial outcome.

The notorious theory of building an "arc of crises" on the USSR's southern borders preached by Brzezinski, the U.S. President's national security assistant, is already an irritant to everybody. But he apparently has his followers. In a February interview for the magazine PLAYBOY Presidential adviser P. Caddell argued that crisis situations in the world might help J. Carter to win the presidential election this November and said that under U.S. conditions "the easiest way for a politician is to kill people."

Asked by the correspondent "what does that mean?" Caddell explained: "A small war would be an extraordinary boost to his election chances, whereas the absence of war or of the threat of war do not affect them at all. Any President can rally the people by resolute, bellicose actions. Eisenhower had Korea and Lebanon. Kennedy had Cuba and Vietnam. Johnson, Nixon and Ford had Vietnam."

After what has happened in Iranian-American relations Caddell's longing for crisis situations seems totally unfounded. Following the unwritten rule "a crisis for every American President," J. Carter has gotten himself the Iranian crisis. And even in the United States few doubt that this crisis was brought about primarily by the American administration. It goes without saying that the objective conditions for the exacerbation of American-Iranian relations were created by the years-long policy of American imperialism, which wanted to turn Iran into the "gendarme" of the Persian Gulf, an anti-Soviet military bridgehead and a field of plunder for the oil monopolies, which acquired profits of at least $25 billion a year at the expense of the Iranian people. Nevertheless, if the U.S. President had not invited--at the insistence of H. Kissinger and D. Rockefeller--the ousted shah of Iran to the United States the American Embassy and the American hostages would not have been captured and, consequently, there would not have been the crisis we have now.

Now the White House is seeking a way out of the impasse using the familiar dangerous maneuvers which have recently become customary for the American administration. Instead of examining and satisfying the Iranian people's legitimate demands for the handover of the shah and the return of the multibillion riches plundered by this butcher and exported to the United States, Washington chose the path of new military threats vis-a-vis Iran and a sharp exacerbation of tension in the near and Middle East region. This is indicated by the new anti-Iranian measures announced by Carter on 8 April. These were the severance of diplomatic relations with Iran, the banning of exports from the United States to Iran of essentially all goods, including food and medicines, and an attempt somehow to "legitimize" the confiscation of assets and property in the United States belonging to Iran. "The secretary of the treasury," the President's statement says, "is compiling an official record of Iranian Government assets frozen in accordance with my previous order and of American citizens' and corporations' unsatisfied claims against the Iranian Government..."

Remember that the overwhelming majority of American monopolies' and banks' so-called claims against the Islamic Republic of Iran stem from the fact that the new Iranian leadership naturally renounced contracts signed by the shah's regime with U.S. military-industrial firms--contracts worth over $15 billion: This money was to pay for a gigantic flood of arms which the Pentagon was sending to Iran to turn the country into its strategic military base. In all conscience it is not the United States but the Iranian people who should be making claims against the United States after its many years of diverting billions from the satisfaction of Iran's national needs and interests.

The U.S. President is trying to use UN authority as a cover for its arbitrary actions in respect of Iran. Resorting to gross deception, he asserts that the possibility of economic sanctions against Iran and the ban on exports of goods from the United States to Iran accords with the 13 January 1980 Security Council resolution although references to it are groundless because this resolution simply does not exist: As is known, the Soviet Union vetoed this resolution and it was not adopted by the Security Council.

The United States' West European allies and Japan, who were not consulted by the United States beforehand, are again faced with a fait accompli. And Washington is demanding that its allies follow blindly and obediently in the wake of its adventurist policy. The American President has already officially asked his allies to support him by adopting additional diplomatic and economic sanctions and punitive actions against Iran.

The allies' behavior in this case will be of decisive significance for the future development of events. The fact is that American-Iranian trade and economic ties were essentially reduced to zero even before the U.S. President's latest statement. Consequently, the United States is left with hardly any extra levers to influence Iran economically. For this reason Washington is pinning its hopes on its allies, without eschewing overt blackmail. A U.S. State Department representative threatened the other day that if the allied states did not cooperate with the United States in terms of pressurizing Iran their supplies of Near East oil might be in jeopardy....

"It appears," an American NBC TV commentator stressed in this connection, "that the State Department's message to the U.S. allies is as follows: You may be faced with the prospect of a U.S. blockade on the Persian Gulf if you do not take our side in relations with Iran." A commentator for another television company, ABC, pointed out: "It follows from the State Department representative's words that if the President's latest measures fail the United States will be forced to resort to military methods to solve the problem."

Secretary of State C. Vance was forced to admit that so far only a small proportion of the U.S. allies have "responded" to the American appeals. The foreign ministers of the nine EEC countries, meeting in Lisbon on 10 April, opted for procrastinating tactics. As EEC President E. Colombo told journalists, the EEC countries will adopt their final stance on the Iranian crisis only on receipt of Iranian President Bani-Sadr's reply on the "exact time and conditions for the release" of the American hostages. But these conditions have been known for a long time. The leadership of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Ayatollah Khomeyni personally are insisting on the handover of the former shah and the return to Iran of the plundered wealth and are demanding that the United States officially dissociate itself from its previous policy of political, economic and military interference in Iran's internal affairs. [paragraph continues]

It is Washington's refusal to satisfy these legitimate wishes that is hampering the solution of the question of the release of the American hostages.

By using "gunboat diplomacy" the American leadership is jeopardizing not only peace in the Near and Middle East but also its allies' vital economic interests.

U.S. Senator Bayh has announced his intention to submit a bill to Congress widening the President's powers in terms of "punishing" countries which refuse to support American sanctions against Iran. The bill gives the President the right to dramatically raise tariffs on goods imported into the United States and also to prohibit American federal departments from maintaining business ties with these countries. Bayh expressed his indignation at the fact that the U.S. allies are "in no hurry" to endorse Washington's course.

Western Europe and Japan, which are dependent on Iranian oil supplies, prefer in fact to be guided by their own national interests. Japan reacted particularly sensitively to the Iranian oil minister's warning that Iran would halt supplies of oil to "any country participating in anti-Iranian economic sanctions." Even in London, according to THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, "the official U.S. request to support the measures vis-a-vis Iran was greeted with a marked lack of enthusiasm." According to London's DAILY MAIL, "there is little likelihood of Britain breaking off economic relations with Iran or imposing a trade embargo."

The American policy of diktat and blackmail is clearly misfiring. The so-called "arc of crisis" is crashing down painfully on the United States like a heavy timber.

The Iranian people have responded to Washington's militarist threats by uniting all national patriotic forces beneath the slogan of struggle against American imperialism and its henchmen.

Iran is not alone in this noble struggle.

PRAVDA NOTES 'RESISTANCE' TO U.S. CALLS FOR IRAN SANCTIONS

LD151159 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Apr 80 p 5

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent N. Kurdyumov under the general headline: "Preparing Punitive Measures Against Iran"]

[Text] Washington, 10 April--Having broken off diplomatic relations with Iran and set a course toward stiffening economic and political sanctions against the country, Washington is sharply increasing pressure on its Western allies, demanding, in effect, that they unconditionally support the administration's anti-Iranian actions. It was to this end that U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance held a meeting in Washington with the ambassadors of more than 20 countries. The French ambassador said that Vance called for "a show of solidarity" with the United States.

However, the American press admits that the attitude of the West European capitals and Tokyo to Washington's "calls" to support the United States' punitive anti-Iranian measures is very restrained. The Washington POST points out that "the United States' European allies are scarcely going to follow the U.S. example and break off trade and diplomatic relations with Iran."

According to reports from there, Tokyo is expressing, for example, grave fear that to go along with the American sanctions would be to jeopardize Japanese oil imports from Iran which currently constitute around 10 percent of the country's needs.

Nor is there any less resistance to Washington's "calls" in West European economic and financial circles.

TASS REPORTS UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TEST IN NEVADA

LD170900 Moscow TASS in English 0852 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Washington, April 17, TASS--The United States has staged a new atomic weapons test. According to a spokesman of the Energy Department, a nuclear device with the yield of 20 to 150 kilotons was set off in the Nevada testing range. This is the fourth underground nuclear explosion in the USA this year.

CIA DIRECTOR TURNER ADMITS USE OF NEWSMEN FOR ESPIONAGE

LD161435 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Text] TASS--Washington--The CIA, the U.S. espionage department, is continuing unimpeded its "dirty operations" abroad, carrying them out with the sanction of the White House. This was frankly admitted by CIA Director S. Turner speaking at the annual convention of the U.S. newspaper editors society.

The espionage department chief paid special attention to the question of the use of journalists for spy purposes. It would be naive to suppose, he stressed, that correspondents should be free of ties with intelligence. In the desire to hearten the workers of the U.S. "free press" who have sold themselves to the CIA and thus dirtied their name as journalists, S. Turner cynically called the journalists' activity their "patriotic duty."

Aware of the support of the White House behind him, the CIA director openly admitted that despite the scandalous disclosures of cases of the U.S. special services' use of the services of over 400 U.S. journalists for espionage purposes, the CIA has since early 1977 again started to review plans for the extensive recruitment of correspondents.

S. Turner's statements show once again that the United States has no intention of considering the opinion of the international commission for elaborating policy in the information sphere, whose report contains a clause prohibiting the use of journalists for such purposes. The Carter administration takes this stand despite the fact that the fifth and final chapter of the MacBride commission's report contains conclusions and recommendations approved by the U.S. representative too.

The CIA director noted that the CIA's entire activity, including its secret operations, are under the direct leadership of the "U.S. National Security Council under the chairmanship of the President." The present administration, he stressed, directs the CIA's actions "to a far greater degree than ever before." He called this situation "a big plus" since the CIA is thus "linked closely with the policy-makers" in the United States, which allegedly enables it "to be of greater benefit."

Turner made it plain that the CIA intends to rid itself definitively of the present symbolic congressional "tutelage" over its activity, calling for the repeal of the Hughes-Ryan amendment which orders the CIA to inform certain congressional committees in advance of secret operations which are being prepared abroad.

At the same time he demanded, almost in the form of an ultimatum, that Draconian measures be taken to persecute those Americans who dare to protest against the CIA's lawlessness or who divulge instances of its crimes.

SOUTH KOREAN STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS REPORTED

SK170028 Moscow in Korean to Korea 0934 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] According to foreign reports, there has been a stream of student demonstrations for 2 weeks in Seoul, Pusan, Taegu, Inchon and other South Korean cities. At the schools heavily surrounded by police, students are boycotting classes and staging rallies and demonstrations everyday. The students are calling for an end to the militarization of the campus, police surveillance and politically prompted suppression..

SEOUL: U.S. EMBASSY STATEMENT ON NONINTERFERENCE EXAMINED

LD161249 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed "Rejoinder" from "The World Today" feature compiled by A. Nikanorov: "Unexpected Turn of Events in Seoul"]

[Text] The U.S. Embassy in Seoul has issued a statement alleging that it follows the principle of absolute noninterference in South Korea's policy and is not "for" or "against" any politician aspiring to the presidency. Foreign journalists were initially perplexed: What's this? But then everything was explained.

It transpires that the last issue of NEWSWEEK magazine published an article whose author quotes a certain "highly experienced diplomat" who gave his assessments of the presidential candidates. According to him one of them, to put it mildly, is not brilliantly talented, another is too radical and another too compromised.

The South Korean press suspected not without grounds that the "diplomat" was a U.S. Embassy employee. And Western journalists scratched their heads wondering how to view the part of the statements which speaks of "absolute noninterference." It is known that the former high-handed "President" Pak Chong-Hui was removed by the chief of the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency on direct orders from the American CIA. Moreover, in accordance with the tried method the executor of the overseas partner's will was also "removed," so no one would be any the wiser, as they say. Then, as had to happen, the "highly experienced diplomat" surfaced. An unexpected turn of events indeed. So the U.S. Embassy had to issue a special statement.

The U.S. administration itself may be investigating the merits of particular candidates for the South Korean presidency. But there is no doubt who calls the tune in this country.

DPRK FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

SK170706 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] A delegation of the Kangwon Provincial Chapter of the Korea-Soviet Friendship Association headed by Comrade Kim Chong-hwan, vice chairman of the Kangwon Provincial People's Committee, arrived in Moscow today.

The Korean delegation has arrived at the invitation of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society in accordance with the program of cooperation between the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society and the Korea-Soviet Friendship Association.

While staying in our country, the Korean friends will visit Leningrad and Ashkhabad, the capital of the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic, in addition to Moscow. In Ashkhabad, they will be briefed on the activities of the Turkmen Chapter of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society and tour various enterprises which are the collective members of the society.

The friends from the fraternal country will participate in various functions commemorating the 110th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir I. Lenin and tour various historic spots related to the life of Lenin, who is the founder of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and of the Soviet state.

USSR, JAPAN SIGN 1980 SALMON FISHING PROTOCOL

LD151235 Moscow TASS in English 1037 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 15, TASS--The quota for Japanese salmon fishing in the northwestern Pacific remains at last year's level: 42,500 tons. This has been envisaged in a protocol, which was signed here today by Vladimir Kamentsev, the minister of fisheries of the USSR, and the Japanese ambassador, Tokichiro Uomoto.

Following bilateral two-week talks the other conditions of salmon fishing were maintained at their former level.

At the last meeting, Minister Kamentsev pointed out that the Soviet fishermen were building ther relations with their Japanese counterparts, proceeding from a spirit of good will and bearing in mind the traditional Japanese fishing in the region. At the same time, he emphasized that a particularly cautious approach was necessary to salmon fishing, for this variety could easily be seriously damaged. "The fishermen of both countries must see to it that the salmon stocks are used rationally and retained for future generations," the minister remarked.

He pointed out that the parties to the present talks in a brief span of time "have done a tremendous job and produced mutually-acceptable results."

Ambassador Tokichiro Uomoto said that in conditions of the introduction of a 200-mile coastal zone in international practice "Soviet-Japanese cooperation is productive and based on a mutually-advantageous foundation." "This is extremely important not only for a solution to purely fishing problems, but also for the formation of a new sea order," the ambassador emphasized. Since the signing of the Soviet-Japanese fishing agreement in 1978, he said, contacts in this field have been steadily sttengthened. He expressed the hope that this trend would continue in the future, too.

"The success of the current talks has made a substantial contribution to the development of Soviet-Japanese relations," the ambassador pointed out.

AFGHAN PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE SLOGANS REPORTED

LD162106 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Kabul, April 16, TASS--The revolutionary Afghanistan abides by the policy of peace, peaceful coexistence, non-alignment, positive and active neutrality, the course of strengthening and developing friendship with socialist countries. This is said in the slogans of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan on the occasion of the second anniversary of the April revolution, which has been distributed here.

The slogans emphasize the importance of the new stage of the April revolution, "the stage of salvation of the revolution and the people". A particular attention is paid to the unbreakable unity of the party, the people and the heroic Army of Afghanistan.

Addressing the countrymen, the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan stresses that the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Revolutionary Council officially declare freedom of opinion, religion, preservation of the national customs and traditions of the citizens of Afghanistan and guarantee them.

The Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan sends fraternal greetings to the people of the Soviet Union which gives Afghanistan all-round assistance in preservation of the freedom, political independence, territorial integrity and progress.

The traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the Moslem peoples of Iran and Afghanistan are noted in the slogans, and it is emphasized that "the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is ready to exert every effort to improve the bilateral relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan with a view of establishing a durable peace between the two countries.

APN QUOTED ON SOVIET 'DECONTAMINATION VEHICLES'

LD151325 [Editorial Report] Paris LE MATIN in French 4 April 1980 carries on page 9 a 1,200-word unattributed report on the Kremlin's denial of U.S. allegations that Soviet citizens in Sverdlovsk had died following an explosion at a bacteriological weapons factory. After mentioning reports on this incident in the West and Soviet reaction, LE MATIN turns to the allegations of Soviet use of chemical weapons in Afghanistan, citing the following APN explanation for these reports:

"APN yesterday gave an explanation to all those who have been surprised to see vehicles specialising in atmospheric decontamination in Red Army convoys: The Afghan rebels are using 'grenades stuffed with toxic substances which affect the sight and respiration and are lethal in large enough concentrations.' According to APN these grenades carry a trademark which leaves no doubt as to their origin: 'CS 517/517 made in Carlsberg, Pennsylvania, U.S.'

"It was during a recent battle between some 40 rebels and an Afghan-Soviet patrol that these 'unusual grenades' were discovered, APN added. To support its theory that Beijing and Washington are joining forces in the anti-Soviet struggle in Afghanistan the Moscow agency added in passing that two Chinese were killed in this clash."

BAKHTAR CITED ON ROUT OF AFGHAN REBELS IN GHOWR

LD161046 Moscow TASS in English 1041 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Kabul, April 16, TASS--People's militia detachments together with the Afghan security forces have routed a gang of terrorists in Teyvareh district, Ghowr Province. A large amount of U.S., Chinese and Pakistani-made weapons has been seized from the bandits.

BAKHTAR agency reports that the gang terrorised the local population and provoked disorders. The actions of the bandits as well as the weapons and equipment seized during the operation, the agency points out, irrefutably prove that the United States, China, and Pakistan are continuing their gross interference in the internal affairs of the sovereign Afghan state.

PUSHTU TRIBAL LEADERS ADOPT REFUGEE RESOLUTION

LD161510 Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Kabul, April 16, TASS--The news agency BAKHTAR has published a resolution passed by a meeting of elders and leaders of Pushtun tribes. It is said in the resolution that during their visits to Pakistan representatives of imperialist states visited the areas of residence of Pushtun tribes and the camps of so-called "Afghan refugees". What was the purpose of such visits? The resolution said: If these representatives are really defenders of Islam then why do they not visit Palestinian refugee camps and the Israeli occupied part of Jerusalem?

It is said in the resolution that talks by representatives of imperialist circles with the "refugees" cannot mislead the leaders and elders of Pushtun tribes. The resolution also warns all Pushtun people that the United States, Britain, China and Pakistan are intensively preparing for fanning up a war in the area of habitation of Pushtun tribes. (?The) Pushtun people keep silent and shut their eyes to these preparations their area of residence will be turned into a battle field. [sentence as received]

In this connection the elders and tribe leaders urged all Pushtun people not to allow criminals to establish bases and strongholds on Pushtun soil or to use Pushtun territory for arms transportation and for actions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

AFGHAN MILITARY OFFICIAL MEETS TURKESTAN COMMANDER

LD171043 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Apr 80 p 3

[Correspondent Maj M. Malygin report under the general headline "Guests From Afghanistan"]

[Text] Red Banner Turkestan Military District, 12 April--A group of Afghan servicemen in Tashkent, headed by Maj Abdol Gafar, chief of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan people's Armed Forces Main Political Directorate Propaganda and Agitation Department, has been received by Col Gen Yu. Maksimov, commander of the district. Lt Gen V. Rodin, member of the Military Council and chief of the district political directorate, took part in the talk.

BAZILEVICH DISCUSSES PROGRESS OF AFGHAN AGRICULTURE

LD152026 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] In Afghanistan, the farmers, in response to the government's call, have plowed up and sown to different crops big stretches of land, and they want to take in a good harvest this year. More about it from Radio Moscow correspondent in Kabul, Viktor Bazilevich:

Throughout the country, 80 percent of the winter and spring wheat and barley have been planted. A spokesman for Afghanistan's agricultural ministry told interviewers that by the end of May the planting of grain crops will be nearly over. Sowing has already ended in the provinces of Balkh, Jowzjan and Faryab.

This year, successful farm work is being facilitated by government assistance. Farm cooperatives set up everywhere are receiving loans from the Agricultural Development Bank. Cooperatives are also able to buy farm machinery at low rates.

In the past 3 months the government has sold Afghan farmers 600 tractors. Soviet Belorus tractors are especially praised by Afghan farmers. So far they have bought more than 10,000 tons of phosphorous fertilizer at low rates.

Farmers in Afghanistan have expressed gratitude for the selfless assistance of the Soviet Union, which has given them thousands of tons of grain and cotton seed. A large amount of these seeds have already been distributed among the Afghanistan farmers.

VARIATION TO AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENT ON SOVIET TROOPS

Comparison of the item entitled "Afghan Foreign Minister Comments on Soviet Troop Presence" published in the 10 April 1980 Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page D 1, with the TASS report entitled "To Defend the Revolution's Gains" published on page 5 of Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 April 1980 reveals that between paragraphs seven and eight IZVESTIYA adds the following paragraphs:

The DRA minister of foreign affairs sharply criticized attempts by the United States and reactionary forces to implement their aggressive plans under the pretext of "defending Islam."

"Afghanistan is an Islamic country," S.K. Dost stressed, "and we are in favor of developing friendly relations with all Muslim states. Afghanistan is ready to discuss the refugees problem and has made repeated proposals to Pakistan to start talks on this issue. But as yet the Pakistani authorities have not given a positive reply."

SHIRIKOV COMMENTS ON INDIAN-PRC BORDER SITUATION

LD101409 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 80 p 5

[V. Shirokov dispatch: "Logic Beijing-Style"]

[Text] Madras--the Chinese newspaper RENMIN RIBAO recently published an article asserting that "there is no official border" between China and India, only some "conventional traditional border." However, China has allegedly never violated this border and has not laid claim to Indian territory and consequently what territorial problem can there be in interstate relations between India and China?

The Beijing expansionists evidently want India to forget that armed aggression was mounted against it in 1959 as a result of which China seized and to this day unlawfully retains 130,000 square kilometers of Indian territory. In 1962 China again attacked India and occupied a further 32,000 square kilometers of Indian land.

Relations between China and India remain tense. Literally not a day passes without the press publishing reports of new instances of PRC interference in India's internal affairs. Beijing is inciting the rebels from the Maga and Mizo tribes and supplying them with weapons, ammunition and money. Some 320 km north of Lhasa in central Tibet China is constructing a nuclear missile base from which, according to the newspaper the INDIAN EXPRESS, Delhi and 20 major Indian cities can be bombarded. The strategic roads under construction in the Himalayas also serve aggressive goals, THE TIMES OF INDIA writes. The Indian public believes that Beijing's "new" interpretation of the Indian-Chinese border problem is designed to conceal the Beijing leaders' expansionist aspirations and camouflage their attempts to perpetuate China's occupation of a considerable section of Indian territory.

PRAVDA NOTES INDIAN-VIETNAMESE AGREEMENT

LD161429 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Apr 80 p 5

[Article by Veniamin Shurygin under the rubric "Commentator's Column: "Fruitful Contacts"]

[Text] Delhi--The Indian people cordially received a Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV) Government delegation, headed by Pham Van Dong, member of the Vietnam Communist Party (VCP) Central Committee Politburo and SRV premier, which paid an official friendly visit to India. The guests were surrounded by an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality. That is no accident. To most Indians Vietnam is a symbol of unbending will and courage in defense of one's country against foreign aggression. Despite attempted U.S. blackmail and pressure the Indian Government firmly and consistently took the side of Vietnam during the dirty war unleashed by Washington in Indochina. Beijing's aggression against the SRV caused a storm of indignation in India. The Indian and Vietnamese peoples are united by common goals in the struggle for peace and the people's security on the Asian Continent.

Friendship and cooperation between India and Vietnam acquire particularly great significance in the current situation where the imperialist forces, in alliance with the Beijing expansionists, are trying on various pretexts to subject the Asian countries to their hegemony and use their territory in strategic plans directed against peace, socialism and the national liberation movement. India's and Vietnam's common or close positions on questions of peace and security in Asia were well expressed by SRV Premier Pham Van Dong addressing a rally of Delhi public representatives. Pointing out the threat posed by the Washington-Beijing alliance, he stated: "I would like to stress that we fully agree with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assessment of the danger to India and the whole region posed by the potential military alliance between the two major reactionary forces of modern times."

The Delhi talks between the Indian and Vietnamese leaders also demonstrated the coincidence or proximity of their governments' positions on such questions as the relaxation of international tension, disarmament, the Afghan question, the Near East situation and others. Both sides stated their desire to develop and expand comprehensive economic and cultural ties. To this end appropriate agreements were signed. The visit will undoubtedly contribute to broadening the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between Socialist Vietnam and the largest of the nonaligned countries--India. This is in keeping with the fundamental national interests of these two Asian states and the cause of peace and the peoples' security in Asia and the world as a whole.

AMBASSADOR KUZNETSOV ON KAMPUCHEAN ELECTIONS, SRV PULLOUT

BK160109 Bangkok POST in English 16 Apr 80 p 3

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to Thailand Mr Yuriy Kuznetsov said yesterday that Vietnamese troops might withdraw from Kampuchea when the "threat" to it from "countries like China recedes." He said he had "heard" that general elections will be held in Kampuchea "in the near future."

In a two-and-a-half-hour press conference at the embassy, Mr Kuznetsov said Vietnamese forces will never invade Thailand, Soviet flights over Thai territory do not number more than two or three a month and Indochinese refugees cannot be resettled in the Soviet Union because "our weather is not suitable for them."

"It is possible that Vietnamese troops stationed in Kampuchea might withdraw in the near future if there is no more outside interference especially from China," the ambassador said. "The ousted Pol Pot regime put the country tenfold backwards which is why it is necessary to solve the Kampuchean problem. I have heard that general elections will be held in Kampuchea in the near future. Whether this election will be held before or after the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops will depend on the Kampuchean people and on the extent of foreign interference."

"Although it is known that we are supporting the Vietnamese in Kampuchea, I can guarantee that the Vietnamese forces will not cross into Thai territory. The Soviets will continue supplying the Vietnamese but the supplies consist not of arms and ammunition, as wrongly reported in the newspapers, but emergency aid and necessary items for the Vietnamese.

"On the request of the Vietnamese, there are many Russian experts working in Vietnam in construction, agriculture and mining and we have to send the relief supplies by air so that it gets to them quickly. The arms being used by the Vietnamese come from the $2,500 million of weaponry left behind by the Americans. That much weaponry is enough for them.

"Western countries say we are spending $2 million to $3 million a day on the Vietnamese in Kampuchea. That is a lot of money, enough to fight a big war. But there is no major war in Kampuchea now. The United States and China have been making lengthy predictions about dry season offensives which have never materialised. They only want to make the situation tense.

"The aid being flown to Kampuchea does not involve more than two or three flights over Thai territory every month and certainly does not exceed the original number agreed upon by the Thai and Soviet governments. But Thai International has rights to fly to Moscow. Why does it not use it?"

Asked whether he believed Thailand was harbouring Pol Pot forces, the ambassador said he had never visited the border and did not know. "But Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong mentioned this in India recently. He must have had grounds for having said so."

"Russia has never asked Thailand or any other government to recognise the Heng Samrin regime. The Kampuchean problem can be solved easily if China stops interfering in that country. The United States and China are interfering in the Middle East and other countries. The United States has troops stationed in foreign countries, unlike the Soviet Union.

"The Indochinese refugee effort is being supported by the Soviet Union through money for the UNHRC. We cannot resettle them in our country because the weather is not suitable for them and they will suffer."

GRIGORYEV SCORES FRG INDIAN OCEAN NAVAL EXPEDITION

LD170909 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 80 p 5

[Yevgeniy Grigoryev "Commentator's Column": "The Wrong 'Somewhere'"]

[Text] In an FRG military port a detachment of warships is completing preparations for a voyage that will be long in terms of both distance and duration. At the end of April a small squadron comprising the missile destroyers Luetjens and Bayern and the supply ships Spessart and Coburg will set sail for the Mediterranean, the Suez Canal, then the Red and Arabian seas and the Indian Ocean. It is planned that the squadron will cruise there right up to the beginning of Agusut.

This is the first time the West German Navy has undertaken so long a voyage. According to a DPA story, the voyage "is merely for the purpose of training the crews and accustoming the sailors to service during a long absence from home shores." However, it is by no means these "training" tasks that are attracting increasing attention from the foreign press. Whether Bonn likes it or not, the upcoming trip by the Bundesmarine detachments is being regarded as connected with the general situation in the Near and Middle East.

It is well known that the American administration has arbitrarily announced that this region is a sphere of U.S. "vital interests." On the pretext of defending these "interests" a huge naval armada with two aircraft carrier groups which is threatening Iran has been massed there. This is the time when the FRG intends to "show the flag" in a region of explosive tension created by its chief ally.

According to an AP report from Washington (where they know what's what, it must be supposed), "this West German squadron will probably hold maneuvers in conjunction with the U.S. Navy ships that have been sailing the Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea for several months now." The West German detachment will visit Karachi (Pakistan), and also the Kenyan port of Mombasa, where the Americans are seeking to create a strongpoint for their navy. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes that "the United States wants to portray the upcoming voyage by four West German ships in the Indian Ocean as support for the intensified patrolling of that region by American naval forces." What else could it look like? Moreover, certain Western observers believe that this voyage to the Indian Ocean smacks of an attempt to gradually get the public accustomed to the idea that "NATO's sphere" may be expanded.

All this is clearly breathtaking even for some people in Bonn. As DER SPIEGEL notes, people there fear that the "appearance of warships under the FRG flag will aggravate still further the tense situation in the Indian Ocean." Appropriate fears. So wouldn't it be more sensible to choose somewhere closer--closer to the FRG itself--for naval outings?

PARLIAMENTARIANS MEETING VIOLATES W. BERLIN STATUS

LD151119 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 4

[Correspondent L. Kalmykov "Rejoinder" from the "World Today" roundup compiled by V. Krasintsev: "Nostalgia for the Past"]

[Text] Deputies of the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] and Christian Social Union in the FRG Bundestag have once again demonstrated their lack of respect for West Berlin's status; this time with the help of a group of U.S. congressmen, who crossed the Atlantic specially to take part in a conference of West German and U.S. parliamentarians, our correspondent L. Kalmykov writes.

In violation of the four-power agreement on West Berlin, the conference was opened in the Reichstag building by Richard von Weizsaecker, vice president of the West German parliament and member of the CDU Board. Having talked as much as they wanted to, the parliamentarians toured the city and visited one of the oldest bastions of the cold war --the West Berlin publishing house of the Springer concern.

The idea of convening a conference comes from the so-called Konrad Adenauer Foundation. This West German organization, closely connected with the CDU, has a far from progressive and not entirely peace-loving reputation. It should therefore come as no surprise that it was West Berlin, which during Adenauer's chancellorship was the hottest spot in cold-war Europe, which it chose as the location for opening the conference.

The meeting's organizers were evidently consumed with nostalgia for the past.

COMMENTARY SCORES SWEDISH COMMENT ON SUPERPOWER RIVALRY

LD142237 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 14 Apr 80

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Igor Charikov and Yevgeniy Grachev]

[Text] Swedish Foreign Minister Ullsten said today: Sweden is ready to receive those taking part in the planned conference on disarmament in Europe. The minister said: It is necessary to hold this forum as soon as possible because of the constant buildup of armaments on the continent. UP reports from Stockholm: Ullsten noted that the saturation of Europe with weapons is taking place not because of the increase in tension but as a result of the struggle between superpowers.

In no way can one agree with the last remark by the Swedish minister who has suddenly started to speak in a Chinese fashion. He obviously preferred to keep silent about the role of NATO and the United States in turning the flywheel of the arms race in Europe and to cast a shadow on the peace-loving policy of the USSR.

However, it is generally known that Washington and its NATO allies are turning the European Continent into a powderkeg. It was they who decided to deploy additionally almost 600 U.S. nuclear missiles on West European territory. They and no one else increase their military budgets annually and sabotage the reduction in the armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

At the same time the Soviet Union is implementing unilaterally the withdrawal of 20,000 servicemen from the GDR and is consistently and persistently proposing constructive initiatives aimed at insuring peace and security on our continent. Thus it is clear who is responsible for the escalation of armaments in Europe.

In order to confirm this conclusion I should like to quote a cable from Brussels. The NATO Planning Committee session opened there today. This is reported by AFP. Robert Komer, U.S. deputy secretary of defense, is the session's chairman. The Pentagon's senior official feels that he is the master and is unashamedly exerting open pressure on the bloc's junior partners. The session's official agenda is formulated thus: The study of NATO's long-term policy in the post-Afghan situation. However, in fact, Komer arrived in Brussels in order to demand once again from the allies that they make additional contributions to the bloc's common exchequer by increasing their military budgets by three percent annually, especially for the needs of NATO. Informed sources believe that the envoy from the Pentagon will once again try to persuade the European leaders to undertake more substantial obligations within the bloc.

What does this mean in practice? The United States would like West European countries to guarantee NATO manpower reserves in the event of a transfer of the U.S. units from Europe to the Persian Gulf area. In other words they are trying to impose on the Europeans a scenario whereby they would pay for carrying out other people's plans.

MARCHAIS, CUNHAL MEET IN LISBON, ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

LD151537 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 80 p 4

[Correspondent O. Ignatyev report under the general headline "In the Fraternal Parties": "Unity of Opinions"]

[Text] Lisbon, 8 April--On the way back from his trip to Mozambique, during a stopover in Lisbon Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party, met with Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party. During the meeting the two party leaders exchanged briefings on the activity of the Portuguese and French communist parties and discussed the present international situation in detail.

After the meeting a joint communique was published, noting that the international situation is developing favorably for the forces of democracy, national independence and socialism, which have achieved considerable successes recently. Imperialism, in an attempt to regain its lost positions and win back what it has lost, is waging an unrestrained arms race, stepping up the bloc policy, strengthening NATO, foisting on West European countries the deployment of 600 American missiles on their territory and exerting political, economic and military pressure on the developing countries.

The Portuguese and French communist parties, the communique notes, again reassert their determination to promote an end to the escalation of the arms race, the adoption of effective measures against the deployment of new missiles in Europe and the continuation of efforts to promote the holding of arms reduction talks. The two parties are opposed to blackmail in connection with the holding of the Olympics in Moscow and the attempts by certain circles to create obstacles in the path of the Madrid meeting of representatives of states which took part in the CSCE.

The two parties believe, the communique goes on, that resolute action in support of disarmament and peace is a priority task for communists.

The main factors for the success of the peoples' struggle against imperialism and for social progress, peace and socialism, the document says in conclusion, are cooperation and international solidarity between socialist countries, the workers' movement in capitalist countries and the national liberation movement.

STRAUTMANIS HEADS DELEGATION TO MARK FINNISH TREATY DATE

Meeting With Kekkonen

LD161407 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 80 p 4

[TASS report under the general headline: "Marking Anniversary"]

[Text] Helsinki, 9 April--President U.K. Kekkonen of Finland today received the Soviet delegation headed by P. Ya. Strautmanis, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Latvian Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is in Finland for the celebrations of the 32d anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Finnish friendship, cooperation and mutual aid treaty.

The reception was attended by leaders of the Finland-Soviet Union Society and also V.M. Sobolev, USSR ambassador to Finland.

Helsinki Embassy Reception

LD161409 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 80 p 4

[TASS report under the general headline: "Marking Anniversary"]

[Text] Helsinki, 9 April--A reception has been held here in the USSR Embassy to mark the 32d anniversary of the friendship, cooperation and mutual aid treaty between the USSR and Finland.

The reception was attended by President U.K. Kekkonen of Finland; V. Helle, first deputy chairman of parliament; Prime Minister M. Koivisto; members of the government, parliamentary deputies, representatives of political parties, and leaders of the Finland-Soviet Union Society and other public organizations in the country.

The Soviet delegation headed by P. Ya. Strautmanis, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Latvian Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is in Finland to take part in the celebrations, and also the heads of socialist countries' diplomatic missions accredited in Helsinki attended the reception.

Ceremonial Meeting

LD161411 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] Helsinki, 8 April, TASS--A ceremonial meeting took place here today, devoted to the 32d anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Finnish treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance. It was organized on the initiative of the Finland-Soviet Union Society.

The meeting was attended by Finnish President U.K. Kekkonen, Finnish Prime Minister M. Koivisto, parliamentary deputies, ministers and representatives of the country's political parties, business circles and the public.

Taking part in the celebration event was a Soviet delegation headed by P. Ya. Strautmanis, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Latvian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

AUDITING COMMISSION HEAD RETURNS FROM DANISH CP CONGRESS

LD161535 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 80 p 4

[Text] TASS--A CPSU delegation headed by G.F. Sizov, chairman of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, which took part in the work of the 26th Danish Communist Party Congress, returned to Moscow on 8 April.

GROMYKO TO VISIT FRANCE IN LATE APRIL

LD170912 Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 17, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, will visit France at the end of April at the invitation of the French Government.

IRAN'S BEHESHTI DISCUSSES U.S. HOSTAGES' FATE

LD161520 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Tehran, April 16, TASS--Member of the Islamic Revolutionary Council Ayatollah Beheshti at a press conference held here emphasized once again that the Iranian parliament, which was asked by Imam Khomeyni to decide the fate of the American hostages would be able to attend to the matter not earlier than June-July this year. Meanwhile, he pointed out that the hostages might be "pardoned" and released if "a political solution of the problem is found." In this connection Ayatollah Beheshti pointed out that the international commission to examine Iran's claims with regard to the crimes of the former shah and activities of the United States in Iran, which visited Tehran last month for the investigation, can help in this respect.

Answering the question of the position of the American hostages after President Carter's statement on the severance of diplomatic, economic and other relations with Iran, Beheshti said that this decision of Washington would not affect the conditions in which they are kept. In conclusion, the ayatollah has made it clear that when the question of the hostages is discussed in parliament he personally and the deputies of the Iranian parliament--members of the Islamic Republican Party will demand that they be brought to trial.

IRANIAN CHIEF OF STAFF COMMENTS ON SOVIET FORCES

LD161656 Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Tehran, April 16, TASS--General Hadi Shadmehr, chief of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in an interview with Tehran Radio, stated: "There are no evidence or signs indicating a preparation of Soviet Armed Forces for an attack on Iran's territory."

The radio emphasizes that the statement was made by Shadmehr in connection with the recent provocative pronouncements by Zbigniew Brzezinski, assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs, about a certain "preparation of Soviet troops for an invasion of Iran from Transcaucasia."

MOSCOW PERSIAN COMMENTARY DENIES CHARGES OF SOVIET THREAT

NC161950 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Unattributed commentary: "Why Has Washington Introduced the False Tale of the Imaginary Soviet Threat to Iran?"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: America's propaganda machinery knows no limits in broadcasting lies, fabrications and claims that allegedly the Soviet Union is threatening Iran's sovereignty and security.

In his recent remarks to the gathering of U.S. newspaper editors, President Carter futilely tried to pretend that allegedly Iran is threatened, not by the concentration of the interfering U.S. Navy and Air Forces near Iran but, once again, by the notorious Soviet danger.

The U.S. President's national security affairs adviser, Brzezinski, in remarks on television, claimed, without any logical reasoning, that allegedly the Soviet Union has concentrated units of its troops in the Transcaucasian region near Iran's northern borders.

The question which arises is: Why has Washington started the fabricated tale of the imaginary Soviet threat? The imperialists are trying to use the lies about the Soviet danger--a false claim from top to bottom--as a mask to implement their aggressive and adventurist policies against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Long before the severance of diplomatic ties with Iran, the American newspapers openly discussed plans for U.S. military intervention in Iran to seize Iran's natural resources. Ayatollah Khomeyni, referring to this, said: The Americans covet our nation's oil and other natural resources.

American imperialism has been impudently interfering in Iran's domestic affairs for years, and is trying--by colluding with sinister reactionary forces--to crush the revolutionary movement of the Iranian people. At the same time, Washington tries to disguise its criminal acts as a struggle against the Soviet danger. Meanwhile, Iran is not the only nation which has been sacrificed to America's perfidious and hypocritical policy. Discussing this, famous U.S. politician George Kennan confesses that Washington uses the imaginary Soviet danger in order to justify all its acts against other countries and peoples.

As we know, in 1958 the American imperialists repeated the same tale of the Soviet danger when they resorted to military intervention in Lebanon. Imperialist intervention in Angola and Ethiopia was carried out on this same fabricated excuse. Now the Americans and their associates have used the same excuse and are involved in their undeclared war against the Afghan people.

The Soviet Union, with its serious warning to the imperialists last year, neutralized their plan for armed intervention in Iran. The central organ of the USSR CPCC, PRAVDA, wrote a few days ago: The fact that America's interfering plans have not been fruitful up to now and Iran has not been attacked yet is largely due to Soviet policy.

It is very clear that the Soviet Union's policy of preserving peace and of fraternal support for other nations in their struggles against aggression provokes the American imperialists; thus their impudent accusations against Soviet policy and their repetition of the false claim of the imaginary Soviet danger. The surprising point is that some in Iran join the chorus of liars. Only those who are distant from the international policy and whom Washington tries to mislead can be fooled by the tale of Soviet danger. But the number of such people is constantly decreasing. Asian and African nations see the source of the true danger which threatens their independence and security. This danger stems from the policy of U.S. imperialism, which does not cease its subversive and aggressive acts against the people of Iran and of other countries of the world.

APN CITED ON USSR TRANSIT ROUTES AFFECTING IRAN SANCTIONS

LD161339 Paris LE MATIN in French 12-13 Apr 80 p 8

[Bernard Poulet article: "USSR Ready To Help Iran"]

[Text] Could the USSR soon "respond to an appeal for aid" from all or part of the Iranian Government threatened by "imperialist plots?" The crisis on the Iraqi-Iranian border and the break in relations between Washington and Tehran have made this question relevant again. Moscow has adopted a cautious attitude throughout the Iranian crisis, taking an ingratiating attitude toward Khomeyni's anger even when it was directed at the "communists." For the past year the Tudeh Party has constantly applauded all the imam's initiatives. These Marxists and materialists have even been seen to campaign for the theocratic, anticommunist Constitution. The seizure of the hostages was condemned but the USSR opposed the UN Security Council motion on sanctions against Iran in January and, since then, has concentrated on denouncing the "threats which Washington is posing in the region." In Iran itself we have also witnessed the strange alliance between the Tudeh and the orthodox Muslims to denounce the U.S. "devil" and any concession by Bani-Sadr, Qotzbadeh or others to imperialism. To quote Khrushchev's famous expression, Moscow must now be hoping that the Iranian fruit will ripen and, why not, soon fall into its hands.

Yesterday Iranian Ambassador to Moscow Mohammad Mokri stated that his government "expects the Soviet Union" to suspend its arms supplies to Iraq, which, according to him, is using this equipment against Iran or placing it at the disposal "of Iranian counterrevolutionaries." However Mokri "ruled out" a request for military aid from the USSR "in the short term." Ironically his accusations were corroborated by reports published in the United States from U.S. intelligence services. According to these services groups of Iranians hostile to Khomeyni and carrying weapons have been detected on Iraqi territory. U.S. officials have even asserted that these groups, some of which proclaim allegiance to former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar, have received Baghdad's support in planning to overthrow the Islamic regime. These groups, which Washington says it does not support, could be implicated in some of the border incidents which have taken place in the past few days.

For 2 years Iraq has gradually been turning toward the West and, after the shah's fall, the Baghdad regime portrayed itself as the defender of stability in the region. Yesterday, however, was the eighth anniversary of the signing of an Iraqi-USSR friendship treaty under whose terms Moscow supplied large quantities of weapons to Baghdad. However, while Saddam Husyan is ruthlessly repressing the activities of communists in Iraq, Moscow is leaning increasingly clearly in Tehran's favor. Yesterday TASS accused the Iraqi press of waging an "anti-Iranian campaign" and hinted that the United States is ready to support Baghdad. TASS also cited a statement by Imam Khomeyni in which he affirmed that the Ba'thist government should be replaced by an Islamic regime.

APN goes even further since it is publishing what amounts to offers of help from Moscow. It stresses that in the event of an economic blockade on Iran the U.S. sanctions could not be effective "in view of the importance of transport routes through the USSR." In this connection the agency reports the building of "one of the largest heavy truck loading and unloading depots in the USSR" at Astara, an Azerbayjani city on the Iranian border. In deciding--mainly for electoral reasons--to impose sanctions on Iran, Jimmy Carter is likely to have lost all the benefits of the diplomatic campaign which he had orchestrated around the Afghan affair. His diplomatic "Kabul coup" had improved America's image in a Third World frightened by Soviet "imperialism." He had even been able to portray the CIA as an instrument in the defense of "human rights" in the world. By applying sanctions which are likely to be ineffective and which have revived "anti-imperialism" in Iran, Carter may have given the USSR the perfect gift.

STEADFASTNESS CONFERENCE ENDS; KUVALDIN VIEWS RESULTS

LD162145 Moscow TASS in English 1955 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 16, TASS--TASS commentator Georgiy Kuvaldin writes: The fourth conference of the heads of states, members of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, has ended in Tripoli. The results of its work have become a tangible contribution to consolidation of Arab solidarity, the strengthening of the ranks of the progressive Arab forces which come out against the Camp David agreements, for a fair and durable settlement in the Middle East. These results reaffirmed the correctness of the course elaborated at the previous conferences in Tripoli, Algiers and Damascus and they showed that this course is fully in line with the fundamental interests of the Arab peoples.

The heads of state of Libya, Algeria, Syria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization met for the conference at a time when U.S. imperialist circles, backed by their flunkeys in the Middle and Near East, strongly invigorated the activity aimed at building up their military-political presence in the region, amassed an unprecedented armada of combat ships in the area of the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. The actions of the American imperialism created a real threat to security and independence of the countries and peoples of the region.

It is not accidental therefore that the Tripoli conference caught the eve of the Arab world and the broad circles of the international progressive public. The participants in the conference resolutely denounced the designs of U.S. imperialism, the capitulatory course of President as-Sadat. One of the most important results of the Tripoli forum is undoubtedly the strengthening of the unity of action of the members of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, further coordination of their activities in a number of fields, including in the political, economic and military. Noteworthy in this connection is the concrete character of the decisions that were taken on formation of the guiding bodies of the front and its armed forces.

The participants in the conference reaffirmed the need of giving all-round support to the Palestinian resistance movement, struggle against all attempts to impose upon the Palestinians "autonomy", Camp-David way, which is at variance with their national interests.

Reaffirmed once again were the high prestige of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the tested leader of the Palestinians and their sole legitimate representative, solidarity with the struggle waged by the population of the Israeli occupied Arab lands and the need of their earliest release.

The heads of the front member-states paid (?much) attention to the strengthening of relations with allies of Arab peoples in their just struggle. In the concluding political declaration it is stressed, among other things, that the participants in the conference will continue exerting every effort to promote the development and strengthening of cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, to find new forms on this cooperation.

The Tripoli conference demonstrated once again, [word indistinct], determination of its participants to strengthen the unity and solidarity on an anti-imperialist basis.

Desire for Soviet Contacts

LD161454 Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Tripoli, April 16, TASS--The fourth conference of heads of state of member-countries of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation was held here from April 12 to 15. It was attended by the President of Algeria Chadli Bendjedid, the President of Syria Hafiz al-Asad, the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, the leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization Yasir 'Arafat. Having made an all-round discussion of the situation in the Arab world and in the international arena, the concluding declaration says, the participants in the conference noted the dangerous nature of the Camp David agreement and the consequences stemming from this separate deal and connected with the unceasing plots against the Arab peoples by international Zionism and American imperialism, which are trying to split the ranks of Arab countries and undermine their unity. In the process the forces of imperialism and Zionism use the As-Sadat regime for struggle both against the Arab peoples and against the people of Egypt.

The aim of these criminal actions is to establish the domination of Zionism and American imperialism over the Arab world, to subordinate the Arab peoples to their diktat by way of destroying their national and all-Arab gains and plundering their wealth.

The participants in the conference in Tripoli said that there exist attempts to lessen differences between the As-Sadat regime and a number of Arab regimes in order to draw them into the Camp David agreements, to liquidate the unity of the Arab stand in respect of the separate deal, to fan up strife between Arabs and thereby divert them from struggle against the main enemy--Israel and American imperialism.

They stressed that at the present stage Syria is the main link at which imperialism, Zionism and reaction are trying to strike a blow because Syria is the main political and military force in the confrontation with Israel and its allies.

Some West European countries, the declaration says, continue to waver in their choice of position, toeing the line of U.S. policy in the Middle East and ignoring the just Arab cause, the Palestine problem and the dangerous consequences of United States policy in the Middle East region.

The events in the Arab region after the creation of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation in 1977 in Tripoli confirm that the front has become the nucleus of Arab countries in their struggle against the course of betrayal.

The participants in the conference adopted a number of concrete decisions, in particular, to firmly follow the policy of staunchness and resistance to intrigues by American imperialism and Zionism, the main enemies of the Arab peoples. They called on Arab governments to revise their relations with the United States and to regard the creation of American military bases in the Arab world as a direct aggression against countries of the front and Arab peoples, this requiring of them to mount struggle against these bases by all means.

It has been decided to set up governing bodies of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation--a supreme leadership, a political leadership, a committee on questions of information and a military command. It has been decided that their formation will be started immediately. It has also been decided to set up joint armed forces of the front under a joint military command.

The political leadership of the front has been instructed to complete the drafting of the programme of joint Arab action. It provides, in particular, for building up the political, economic and military efforts of Arabs for struggle against the Israeli aggression, for the drafting of continued military development with the aim of creating a military equilibrium in the region, for the working out of a clear-cut position against the United States which supports Israel and helps it.

The participants in the conference also set forth a programme of economic measures to utilize the Arab economy in the struggle against plans of imperialism and Zionism in the Middle East.

States of the front undertake to resist any hostile plans harboured by Zionism and reaction in occupied territories and beyond them and directed at splitting the unity of the Arab people of Palestine and the PLO leadership.

The conference confirmed the unity and Arab character of Lebanon, its independence and sovereignty, and stated its solidarity with that country in its struggle against the Israeli aggression.

The participants in the front will strive further to develop and strengthen their relations in various fields with countries of the socialist community headed by the friendly Soviet Union.

The conference authorised the leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to contact the Soviet Union on behalf of the front and study possibilities of further developing relations between the USSR and the front with the aim of increasing all-round support to the front and insuring military and political equilibrium in the region, as well as of strengthening and deepening relations between the USSR and countries of the front.

The conference stated solidarity with the Iranian revolution in its struggle against U.S. intrigues and confirmed the right of the Afghan people to defend its homeland and peace on its land.

PRAVDA REPORTS CONGRESS OF EGYPTIAN OPPOSITION GROUPING

LD161449 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Apr 80 p 5

[Own Correspondent V. Pereosada report: "Left Party Congress"]

[Text] Cairo, 10 April--The First Congress of the Egyptian National Progress (left) Unionist Grouping (NPUG) opened here today. The party brings together representatives of different political currents and expresses the interests of the country's working masses and democratic forces. Over 500 delegates are attending the congress.

The NPUG, created in 1976, has been compelled to operate in extremely difficult conditions. Although in legal opposition, it is the object of constant repression by the authorities. Its press organ, AL-AHALI was closed, left-wing deputies were barred from the National Assembly and NPUG members are regularly arrested.

In its activity our party is invariably loyal to the ideals of the 1952 anti-imperialist revolution carried out under the leadership of great son of the Egyptian people J. A. an-Nasir, NPUG Chairman Khalid Muhyi ad-Din said, opening the congress. Our strategic task, he stressed, is to return Egypt to the path of anti-imperialism, economic independence, democracy and social progress.

The party congress was convened in conditions of a serious exacerbation of the international situation, the political report delivered by NPUG General Secretary Y. al-Jamal says. This is the direct result of the intrigues of imperialist forces, which are stepping up subversive activity against peace and detente. The speaker sharply criticized the Carter administration's decision to postpone the SALT II treaty ratification indefinitely and the plan imposed by the Pentagon to deploy new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

An integral part of the imperialist intrigues, it goes on, are the Camp David agreements and the separate "peace" treaty with Israel, which contradict the interests of the Egyptian and other Arab peoples. With the conclusion of the treaty an Egypt-Israel axis was formed, to which American imperialism allocates the gendarme role formerly performed by the shah of Iran.

The report stresses that the wrecking of the Camp David policy should be the Arabs' number one task, and indicates the need to widen support for the Palestinian people headed by the PLO.

The political report resolutely condemns the authorities' policy of curtailing democratic freedoms and restricting the activity of opposition forces and demands a ban on persecution for political beliefs, the revoking of all antidemocratic laws and the holding of truly free parliamentary elections.

PLO ENVOY IN MOSCOW GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE

LD152238 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] A press conference was held at the PLO Mission in the USSR today. Ash-Sha'ir, head of the mission, resolutely condemned the provocative policy of the United States in the Near East and also in the Persian Gulf as dangerous to the cause of peace. Ash-Sha'ir said, in part: [begin recording in Arabic fading into Russian translation] While attempting to justify their actions by the mythical danger which is allegedly threatening this region, the White House has sent its forces there. There are now more than 30 U.S. Navy warships in the Persian Gulf. By such acts the Carter administration is whipping up tension and creating a real, not mythical, threat to the security and independence of the Arab states. Washington's aim is to establish control over the oil sources and its own rule in the region, and to stifle the national liberation movement. The Arab peoples unanimously oppose the militarist tendencies of American imperialism in the Near and Middle East. They resolutely reject Carter's thesis that this region is a sphere of U.S. vital interests. They well know in the Arab world that it is the United States which is the main enemy of a just settlement of the Near East problem and the enemy of progressive forces in the region. The United States once again showed itself in this light in organizing the separate anti-Arab deal in Camp David.

Unfortunately, Egyptian President as-Sadat is acting as an accomplice of the United States in this matter. He has been beguiled by foreign military assistance to betray the interests of the Arab world. But I am convinced, said Ash-Sha'ir in conclusion, that no schemes of Washington and its accomplices can halt the Arab national liberation movement. [end recording]

LIBERIA ANNOUNCES COMPOSITION OF NEW GOVERNING BODY

LD162040 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Monrovia, April 16, TASS--The composition of the People's Redemption Council was announced here, formed after the Liberian Armed Forces had overthrown President Tolbert. Samuel K. Doe, head of state and prime minister, has been approved chairman of this highest body of power with Sergeant Thomas Weh Syen as his deputy. The 15 member council includes privates and sergeants of the Liberian Army. Ministers in the cabinet include five army officers as well as representatives of the Progressive People's Party and of the Movement for Justice in Africa, both banned by the former government.

BUTLITSKIY VIEWS PROBLEMS FACING INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE

LD162203 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] A few hours remain before the birth of the 50th independent country in Africa, before the birth of the independent Zimbabwe. That event marks the end of the last British colonial possession on the continent, and if dead people really do turn in their graves one can only imagine the commotion in the graves of Cecil Rhodes, Marquis Salisbury, Winston Churchill and other pillars of British colonialism. But leaving the dead alone, what about the neocolonialists today? Here is a comment by our observer, Arkadiy Butlitskiy. He writes:

In the days and weeks since the truly historical victory of the Patriotic Front parties in Rhodesia, officials in London and Washington have been indulging in a fair amount of self-praise. Chairman of the Subcommittee on African Affairs of the United States House of Representatives, Congressman (Stephen Solarz), has gone on record as saying that the emergence of independent Zimbabwe is his achievement which he is prepared to share with the Congress. Claims of this sort sound really puzzling if one considers the fact that thousands of Zimbabweans who have not lived to see their country's independence were killed with weapons supplied by the West, including the United States. Or let's take, for example, the current U.S. offers of loans to independent Zimbabwe. Only recently this money was being offered to the Salisbury officials acting in the interests of Britain and the United States. But now that they have suffered a crushing political defeat, Washington decides to change its tune. A truly remarkable change of face--not to mention the fact that the aid offer really looks more like a payoff for the dozens of Zimbabwe Africans who were murdered or maimed for life, who lost their homes and their relatives and friends. It is quite obvious now that the West will try to capitalize on some of the trying problems inherited by Zimbabwe from the old colonial times, from the 7-year war of annihilation against the African patriots, a war directed by Pretoria, London and Washington. Zimbabwe's natural wealth so far remains in the hands of major South Africa, British and American companies, like the Anglo-American Corporation, Union Carbide, London and so on. Agricultural production in the republic is in the hands of several thousand white farmers and British agro-industrial companies, not to mention a host of unresolved and very urgent social problems.

The latest statements by the leaders of Zimbabwe make it quite clear that they are fully aware of the complex tasks facing them. In fact they have been aware of the problems when still fighting for their country's freedom in the guerrilla war. The new leaders of Zimbabwe are fully aware of the vast amount of distrust and suspicion which divides the white and the black communities in their land. The task of overcoming this psychological barrier, without sacrificing the principles of social justice, the task of building a new administration machinery and of nationalizing the main areas of national economy take time and the coordinated efforts of all progressive forces and of all nations.

Nor can one forget that the new independent state has to live side by side with the Republic of South Africa. That does not mean, however, that having won its own freedom in a harsh struggle the newly independent country will put up with the man-hating system of apartheid.

Under the circumstances it is only natural for independent Zimbabwe to join the ranks of the frontline countries which confront their last remaining enemy on the continent, the racialist Pretoria regime. In a word, Zimbabwe is facing a range of internal and external problems. They are accentuated by blatant attempts of the West to reap the fruits of the victory of the people of Zimbabwe. But the first moves and statements of the new Zimbabwe leadership prove that over the years of the liberation struggle the patriotic forces have accumulated sufficient practical and political experience to tackle the tasks lying ahead.

DJIBOUTI MINISTER LAUDS GOOD RELATIONS WITH USSR

LD161001 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report from "The World Today" feature compiled by A. Nikanorov: "Djibouti: Minister's Statement"]

[Text] The Republic of Djibouti builds its foreign policy on the basis of love of peace and good neighborliness, Moumine Bahdon Farah, Djibouti minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, has stated.

Relations between the Soviet Union and Djibouti, he said, are imbued with the spirit of mutual understanding. The sides are now discussing the potential for developing cooperation in various sectors. Good relations between Djibouti and the USSR promote the cause of peace and security.

GAMBIAN MUSEUM LAUDS USSR RELIGIOUS RIGHTS, SUPPORT OF ARABS

LD161403 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 80 p 1

[TASS report: "A Reliable Friend"]

[Text] Banjul, 8 April--The Soviet Union has been and remains the reliable friend and support of the developing countries, including those where Islam is widely professed, in their desire to strengthen independence and achieve progress, Mohammed Massanneh Ceesay, secretary general of the Gambian Labor Congress, has stated. The facts indicate this clearly.

The USSR, he said in a talk with a TASS correspondent, gives technical and economic assistance to independent states and resolutely supports the Arab peoples' just struggle against the Western powers' aggression and Israel's expansionist policy. The USSR's concrete actions in defense of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Arab states and nonaligned countries serve as refutation of the anti-Soviet fabrications of the United States and its allies, which have launched a dirty slander campaign with the aim of discrediting the Soviet foreign policy course.

M. Ceesay noted that the freedom of religion enshrined in Soviet legislation is strictly implemented in practice. I have seen this for myself on repeated visits to the USSR, he stressed. I was able to pray together with Soviet people sharing my faith in mosques in Azerbaijan and Moscow. Neither clergy nor believers--nobody--complained of any persecutions of oppression, M. Ceesay said. All this is the fruit of the fevered imagination of certain Westerners who stop at nothing to blacken the Soviet Union's selfless assistance to Afghanistan and other developing countries fighting for independence and against the forces of imperialism and reaction.

ACADEMICIANS AT LENIN CONFERENCE ASSAIL U.S., PRC

LD161542 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 16 Apr 80

["Marxism-Leninism and the Modern Epoch"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 16, TASS--"By creating its military bases throughout the world, by arming its allies and forcing them to arm further, and by joining the anti-Soviet collusion with the Beijing chauvinists, the United States strives to disrupt the strategic equilibrium in the world, secure a change of the balance of forces in its favour and dictate its will to other countries and peoples", stated Academician Petr Fedoseyev.

The vice-president of the USSR Academy of Sciences today spoke at a scientific conference devoted to the 110th anniversary of Lenin's birth that is in its second day in Moscow. The conference is attended by representatives of 40 countries.

Academician Fedoseyev noted that when the United States fails in its attempts to change the balance of forces in its favour, it starts hollering about a "threat" from the Soviet Union, about violations of international norms and laws. An example of this is the vicious slander campaign over the events in Afghanistan, which as is known, resulted in a frustration of the intention of the U.S. imperialists to strangle the popular revolution and have at the Soviet Union's doorstep centres of intelligence and subversion, military bases and obedient agents under the guise of an "independent government".

"Undeviatingly adhering to the Leninist principles and not giving in to the provocations and threats of the imperialists, the Soviet Union is consistently implementing its program of peace, pressing for a strengthening of international detente and resisting the attempts by reactionary forces to bring the world back to the times of the cold war and balancing on the brink of military catastrophe", Academician Fedoseyev went on. "The Soviet Union is upholding the cause of peace and international security in fraternal cooperation with countries on the socialist community and together with all exponents of detente and peaceful coexistence".

"Having been brought up in the spirit of the principles of internationalism, Soviet people display fraternal solidarity with all champions of peace, national independence and socialism", Petr Fedoseyev noted. "On our part we highly value the manifestations of solidarity by our friends in respect of the Soviet people and the party of Lenin".

Vadim Medvedev, rector of the Academy of Social Sciences, said in his speech that socialism has become a world system that exerts a growing influence on the development of the socio-historical process. He condemned attempts to distort the Marxist-Leninist ideas about socialism and communism.

"When setting forth the slogan of directly passing to communism by leapfrogging the socialist phase, the Maoist leadership of China came out from anti-Marxist, anti-Leninist positions", Vadim Medvedev said. "This ambitious aim was dictated entirely by the conceited, hegemonistic strivings of the Beijing ruling upper crust. An attempt was made to camouflage this aim to make it look like Marxism and to coat it in Marxist terminology".

UKRAINIAN DISSIDENT CHORNOVIL 'REARRESTED' IN SIBERIA

AU160857 Rome ANSA in English 0830 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 16 (ANSA)--A Ukrainian dissidnet active in the Soviet human rights movement who was to have been released before this summer's Moscow Olympics has been charged with another crime and will not be free by that date, according to dissident sources here.

The sources said yesterday that the dissident is Vyacheslav Chornovil, who was "re-arrested" at the Siberian town of Mirny for allegedly being involved in a case of attempted carnal violence.

Chornovil, 41, has already spent more than eight years in prison and exile.

His book, the Chornovil documents, was published in the West in 1968 with reports on a whole series of political trials celebrated in the Ukraine during the sixties. Arrested in 1972, he was found guilty of "anti-Soviet agitation". Currently, he was serving a period of exile in Siberia and would have been freed in a couple of months.

SHCHERBITSKIY ADDRESSES UKRAINIAN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

LD152314 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] A plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee was held today in Kiev, where a report from the Voroshilovgrad Obkom on the organizational and political work in connection with the fulfilment of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, November 1979 Plenum of the CPSU, national-economy plans and obligations for the final year of the 5-year plan, was heard. A speech was made at the plenum by Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES MEETING OF MOSCOW RAILROAD AKTIV

LD152310 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] The successful development of rail transportation to a decisive degree depends on raising the level of party leadership in this important field. This was stressed at a meeting of the party aktiv of the Moscow Railroad District today. It discussed tasks in fulfilling the decision of the CPSU Central Committee on measures to improve party political activity in rail transportation. A report was read by Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom.

ROMANOV ADDRESSES PLENARY MEETING OF LENINGRAD OBKOM

LD152311 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Text] Tens of research and design institutes, colleges, design bureaus and enterprises of Leningrad took part in the creation of a long-term program to increase the Leningraders contribution ot the development of the country's fuel and power complex, in the light of the demands of the November 1979 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the instructions of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. The working out of the program is virtually complete. The tasks of Leningrad communists in implementing the program were discussed at a plenum of the CPSU Obkom which was held in Smolnyy today. A speech was made at the plenum by Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom.

ALIYEV ADDRESSES MEETING OF AZERBAIJAN CP POLITBURO

LD152312 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 15 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Veteran communists and heroes of the labor front told of heroic episodes in the struggle for the establishment and consolidation of Soviet power in Azerbaijan and the construction of socialism at a meeting with members of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Politburo in Baku today. Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, spoke at the meeting.

COMMENTARY PRAISES ATABAYEV'S LEADERSHIP IN TURKMENISTAN

TA151139 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 13 Apr 80

[Literary commentary: "He Heard Lenin's Words With His Own Ears"]

[Summary] Turkmenistan is one of the Soviet Union's Central Asian republics covered mostly by the Kara-Kum Desert. The Turkmens were forever in search of water and fertile land, and would go from one place to another. Turkmenistan's national writer, Babayev, elaborates on the history of this republic and his early life as a child who was abused by his master.

Babayev goes onto relate the biography of a Turkman by the name of Atabayev. The latter led a very difficult childhood but was able to go to school and learn how to read and write, and got to read some of the banned books of tsarist Russia from his teacher. After finishing school Atabayev went back to his village and began inciting the peasants the landlords, telling them that land belonged to those who worked on it.

When the news of the Socialist Revolution of October 1917 reached Turkmenistan Atabayev became one of the first leaders in the struggle to establish the Soviet Government in his homeland. He fought against the counterrevolutionaries and distributed the land among the peasants. In the summer of 1920 the communists of Turkmenistan received a letter from Lenin, expressing hope for the establishment of fraternal relations among the various soviet republics.

Atabayev attended the 8th Congress of Soviets held in Moscow on 22 December 1920 where Lenin made a speech about the importance of providing electricity for all the country in order to develop industry and agriculture. More than 60 years have passed since that day, and the deep social and economic changes that have occurred in the life of the people of Turkmenistan have transformed the features of ancient Turkmenistan. Atabayev later became the head of the Government of Soviet Turkmenistan.

BRIEFS

BRIGADE HONORS STRELNIKOV--The brigade led by Aleksandr Vedenov of construction and installation train No 787 of the Tyndatransstroy trust has decided to include Hero of the Soviet Union and Border Guard post commander Strelinikov, who was killed by Chinese provocateurs in March 1969 on Damanskiy Island, in the brigade's collective. The wages earned will be transferred to the construction of a memorial to Strelnikov. [Text] [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 31 Mar 80 OW]

RSFSR AGRICULTURE MINISTER DISCUSSES SPRING FIELDWORK

LD171016 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0545 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Talk by Leonid Florentyev, RSFSR minister of agriculture, entitled "Before Going Out Into the Fields"]

[Summary] Spring has come late to most parts of the republic this year. Spring fieldwork is only now beginning in the south, where by this time it is usually complete. This makes the efficient organization and use of machines and tractors even more important. Krasnodarskiy and Stavropolskiy krays, Rostovskaya Oblast and other areas are doing well in this respect. The grain target for this year is 135 million tons but farms have undertaken socialist obligations in excess of this amount.

The tending of winter crops is in progress. These crops were sown on 4 million more hectares this year. Over half the 20 million hectares area has been dressed with fertilizer. This work has ended in the North Caucasus and is beginning in the Volga Region and the Central Chernozem Zone. Root dressing is being widely used this year. More fertilizer, both organic and mineral, is available this year. The sowing of spring grain crops with simultaneous application of fertilizer will take place on at least 37 million hectares. To improve the quality of grain, more strong and hard varieties are being sown. Over 4 million hectares are being treated with nitrate fertilizers. The results for groat crops were unsatisfactory last year. This year's targets are 967,000 tons for buckwheat and 2.25 million tons for millet. The row crop technique is being applied to buckwheat.

Much attention is being paid to seed breeding. The following new varieties are being used: winter wheat, Krasnodarskiy-46 and Severodonskaya; winter rye, Voskhod and Chulpan; spring wheat, Saratovskaya-46, Tselinnaya-20 and Omskaya-9; spring barley, Donetskiy and Luch; millet, Mironovskaya-94, Saratovskaya-2; and many others. About 36 million hectares are being sown with new high-yield varieties. Heat treatment of seeds is being practiced in many farms in the Non-Chernozem Zone and in the north where seed breeding conditions were poor last year. In eastern areas, there is more spring fieldwork than usual since bad weather in the fall prevented many farms from plowing winter fallows. Equipment is being sent ahead of schedule to these areas. It is important to get the most out of the tractors and other machines.

Over 1.3 million tractors are being used this spring, including 100,000 K-700 and T-155 tractors. This year, tractors are in a better state of repair. Even most combine harvesters have been overhauled, as part of the campaign to concentrate machinery overhaul in the fall winter period. But in some cases overhaul work is being delayed because of a lack of spares, particularly for K-700 and BT-75M tractors. This year, 43,000 qualified fitters will be available in special teams, to keep the machinery serviceable. Completion of wintering of animals is also in progress.

BRESTSKIY OBKOM VIEWS FARM PERFORMANCE, RECEIVES AWARD

LD111551 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 27 Mar 80 p 1

[BELTA report: "Raising the Level of Comprehensive Mechanization"]

[Text] Brest, 26 March--The Belorussian CP Obkom plenum held today discussed the question "Of the Implementation of the Demands of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum on Raising the Level of Comprehensive Mechanization and Increasing Labor Productivity on the Oblast's Kolkhozes and Sovkhozes."

Over the 9th and 10th 5-Year Plan years, the plenum participants noted, certain successes have been achieved in developing agricultural production and increasing its efficiency. Fixed production capital has increased 2.6 times, gross production volume and agricultural produce sales to the state have almost doubled and farms economies have strengthened.

Field and farm workers as a whole fulfilled the plan for the first 4 years of the 5-year plan in terms of the production of all types of agricultural produce apart from flax. They are giving a worthy greeting to the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth.

At the same time, the plenum noted, the work of party, soviet and agricultural organs on the comprehensive mechanization of agriculture and the raising of its efficiency does not fully meet the increased demands. Many farms are not being persistent enough in pursuing agricultural production intensification and are not achieving maximum return on money means and material-technical resources invested in agriculture.

The plenum was addressed by N.I. Dementey, secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee, and Ye. Ye. Sokolov, obkom first secretary.

N.I. Dementey, secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee, presented the Belorussian CP Central Committee, Council of Ministers, trade union council and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banner awarded to the oblast for its highly productive utilization, maintenance and preparation of agricultural equipment and also for increased milk production and sale to the state in 1979.

BRIEFS

SOYBEAN CULTIVATION SEMINAR--A 2-day scientific production seminar on the progressive technology of soybean cultivation in the Far East has ended in Blagoveshchensk. Specialists from Primorskiy and Khabarovsk krays and Amurskaya Oblast heard a number of reports on soybean cultivation in experimental production farms in the oblast and visited several farms. (Revnev), instructor of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture Department; Martynov, RSFSR deputy minister of agriculture; and Mavrin, Amurskiy Obkom second secretary, participated in the seminar. [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 11 Apr 80 OW]

YEGOROV DISCUSSES MEDICAL STATUS OF COSMONAUTS POPOV, RYUMIN

LD161122 Moscow TASS in English 1107 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 16, TASS--The first week of Leonid Popov's and Valeriy Ryumin's stay in outer space has come to an end. A TASS special correspondent interviewed Doctor of Science (Medicine) Anatoliy Yegorov at the Mission Control Center.

"We are pleased to see that our patients in outer space feel well and their capacity for work is not affected," the doctor said. "They are adapting to weightlessness even more quickly than we expected. First of all, mention should be made of the good condition of the 'newcomer' to outer space, Leonid Popov. This is a result of his thorough personal preparation for the experiment. Weightlessness is not new to Valeriy Ryumin who made a 175-day flight in the past year.

Is not the interval between the two space flights a bit too short for Valeriy Ryumin?

"No, it is not," Yegorov replied. "Before we, medics, gave permission for Ryumin's new flight the cosmonaut was thoroughly examined. We did not discover in his organism any residual effects from his almost half-a-year flight in outer space. He is quite well and the first week of the present flight is the best proof of this."

"The cosmonauts have already started their exercises on the running track," Yegorov said. "As you know our motto is: 'When on earth prepare for weightlessness and when in outer space do not forget about your return to the earth and about your meeting with the earth's gravitation."

Is there anything new in the matter of preventing unfavorable effects of weightlessness on space travellers?

"Yes, there is some," Yegorov said. "It is known, for instance, that on earth the greater part of the blood is in the lower part of the human body while in conditions of weightlessness blood is evenly distributed throughout the organism. This causes a rush of blood to the head. Medics have devised special cuffs which are being used in this flight. The purpose of these cuffs is to ensure a roughly terrestrial distribution of blood in the organism. We have great hopes for this device. Later, we shall report on this experiment in greater detail."

In conclusion Yegorov said that the cosmonauts have accomplished a great amount of repair and prophylactic work as well as loading and unloading operations in connection with the ship Progress-8. "Leonid Popov and Valeriy Ryumin are working in some respects ahead of schedule. This is the most convincing proof of their physical well-being," the doctor said.

BRIEFS

ANTARCTIC SHIPPING--The motorship Altayskiye Gory of the Vostokryekholodflot administration will soon complete cargo-handling operations in the Antarctic area and the rescue vessel Dozornyy is conducting fleet observations in the area. [Vladivostok Maritime Service in Russian to the Pacific Far East 0710 GMT 11 Apr 80 OW]

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

MARSHAL KOLDUNOV ADDRESSES MEETING ON AIR DEFENSE DAY

LD132317 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1530 GMT on 13 April carries a 22-minute program on a meeting in Moscow's House of the Soviet Army devoted to Air Defense Day, which contains the following recorded passage by Marshal of Aviation Koldunov, commander in chief of Soviet Air Defense Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, who addressed the meeting:

"Today the Soviet Armed Forces have at their disposal the most up-to-date weapons and everything needed for a shattering defeat of any aggressor. In the postwar period the country's air defense forces have changed radically. They are armed with highly efficient systems of (weapons) for foiling enemy air attack methods. With the joint force [word indistinct] of the Air Defense Forces of the allied armies they defend the air borders of the entire socialist community. Profoundly conscious of their military duty, our troops carry out with lofty responsibility their difficult but honorable service everywhere that the USSR air boundaries pass. The heroic past of the Air Defense Forces is supplemented in postwar times by shining examples of military prowess. Soldiers, sergeants, ensigns, officers and generals have repeatedly distinguished themselves in mastering new technology, in exercises and military firing and in military duty. On behalf of the Military Council and the Political Directorate of Air Defense Forces I cordially congratulate the participants in this solemn meeting, all troops and our glorious veterans, on this festival."

CORRECTION TO 14 APR USTINOV ORDER ON MILITARY SERVICE

The following correction should be made to the item entitled "Ustinov Issues Order on Routine Callup of Servicemen" carried on page V 1 of the 14 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT: Paragraph three, line two should read "...age of 18...."

BRIEFS

FAR EAST MILITARY LEADER--Today the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Far East Military District together with the Khabarovsk Gorkom held a seminar for propagandists, staff and non-staff lecturers and reporters of party committees and the Knowledge Society devoted to the 35th anniversary of Soviet victory in the Great Patriotic War. The seminar was addressed by Lieutenant General Novikov, chief of the Political Directorate of the Far East Military District, and Popov, first secretary of the Khabarovsk Gorkom. [Khabarovsk Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 2 Apr 80 OW]